

Published 1745  
AND VILLAS  
AVAILABLE  
Thursday May 19 1977  
60,007  
ce fifteen pence

هنگامس انصاف

# THE TIMES

Prudence Glynn on  
Wimbledon  
fashion, page 14

## Right-wing Israeli victors seek broad coalition to continue peace search

soon as his election victory was conceded, Menachem Begin, Israel's prospective Prime Minister, called for a coalition of national unity and offered direct peace talks to the Arab states.

In the Arab world and the United States, however, the election result was seen as a blow to peace hopes and one Israeli MP spoke of "war at the gate".

## Arab leaders invited to direct talks

Eric Marsden  
Tel Aviv, May 18  
Menachem Begin, Israel's prospective Prime Minister, called for a coalition of national unity and offered direct peace talks to the Arab states.



Mr Menachem Begin, election victor, seen with his wife.

Quoting a document of the United States Democratic Party, Mr Begin said the talks should be "without an externally devised formula", thus giving notice to President Carter that he will oppose any United States "suggestions".

The odds of the election were in favour of the right-wing Likud party, led by Begin. The party won 43 seats, while the Labour Alignment, led by Yitzhak Rabin, won 37 seats.

The election was held on May 17, 1977, and was a surprise victory for the Likud party.

Begin's victory was seen as a blow to peace hopes and one Israeli MP spoke of "war at the gate".

Begin's victory was seen as a blow to peace hopes and one Israeli MP spoke of "war at the gate".

## 'alestinian 'fifth war' warning

Our Foreign Staff  
The Voice of Palestine radio in Cairo yesterday said that the Arab people would rise against any attempt by the Likud right-wingers to up a "Greater Israel".

## Sudanese expel Soviet experts

Damascus radio described the success of the Likud bid as a victory for the party most opposed to peace in the Middle East. But the Syrian Government newspaper Tahrir said:

## Autumn rail fare rise not ruled out

Michael Bailey  
Transport Correspondent  
Further rise in rail fares the autumn was ruled out by Mr Peter Parker, chairman of British Rail, yesterday.

## Radical new line on pay deals proposed by CBI

A plan for a radical new approach to pay bargaining has been approved by the Confederation of British Industry. The document setting out the CBI's proposals suggests setting up a national body to agree on prevailing economic conditions, and that all pay bargaining should take place in the months following the Budget.

## Top priority given to finding jobs for young

By Christopher Thomas  
Labour Reporter  
The reduction of unemployment among young people was identified yesterday as a top priority. A harsh appraisal of future trends by the Manpower Services Commission pointed to the likelihood of 350,000 young people without jobs later this year.



In his capacity as electrician, Lord Rosebery tinkering during yesterday's sale.

## Garden party assembles to relieve Lord Rosebery of his treasures

By Geraldine Norman  
Sale Room Correspondent  
The sun shone from a cloudless sky on the sprawling auction marquees of Menmore yesterday as the garden party gathered to relieve Lord Rosebery of his treasures.

## Campaign to revive Anglo-Catholicism

By Clifford Langley  
Religious Affairs Correspondent  
A plan of campaign to revive the Anglo-Catholic movement in the Church of England is to be started next spring, in an attempt to reverse the declining influence of Anglo-Catholicism, which changed the course of church history.

## Police seize Soviet Germans

Moscow, May 18.—The Soviet police tonight arrested eight Soviet Germans who had forced their way into the West German Embassy and asked for help to emigrate. They were detained a few hundred yards from the mission.

## Briton accused of fraud

Our Own Correspondent  
May 18  
A Briton, 35, his wife and two sons, including an administrator, a secretary of the firm, and a secretary of the firm, have been charged with fraud.

## Crucial Vienna talks

South Africa is faced with crucial decisions when Mr Vorster meets Vice-President Mondale in Vienna today. In return for much needed American support it will be asked to back Western initiatives in Rhodesia and Namibia and prepare to eliminate the worst of apartheid.

## Pay 'elbow-room'

Mr Callaghan told the conference of the Transport Salaried Staffs Association that union negotiators should have more elbow room after the present phase of pay policy has expired.

## Ban on 'weather war' agreed by 33 nations

Representatives of 33 nations, including the United States and the Soviet Union, agreed in Geneva a convention banning "weather warfare", the concept of interfering with the environment for hostile purposes.

## Mr Rees criticizes plea bargains report

Mr Rees, Home Secretary, has criticized the findings of a research project conducted with Home Office funds which suggested that a number of barristers had improperly persuaded their clients to change their plea to guilty.

## Pay 'elbow-room'

Mr Callaghan told the conference of the Transport Salaried Staffs Association that union negotiators should have more elbow room after the present phase of pay policy has expired.

## Rhodesian lure alleged

Mr Andrew Young, the American delegate to the United Nations, accused Rhodesia of making its "hot pursuit" raid into Botswana in order to lure the nationalists into bringing in the Cubans.

## Crucial Vienna talks

South Africa is faced with crucial decisions when Mr Vorster meets Vice-President Mondale in Vienna today. In return for much needed American support it will be asked to back Western initiatives in Rhodesia and Namibia and prepare to eliminate the worst of apartheid.

## Big ICI expansion

ICI has announced big expansion plans to give it a bigger share of the European chemicals industry. The company will spend £140m at its complex at Wilton, Teesside, and is negotiating for a 300-hectare site in West Germany, where £600m may be spent.

## Eire search for officer

The search for the body of Captain Robert Nairne, whose murder has been admitted by the Provisional IRA, has moved to Ravensdale forest, in the Irish Republic, less than 10 miles from where he disappeared.

## More of Eastern Europe, more often.

### Fly the flag.

Fast, frequent services from London to Moscow, Warsaw, Budapest, Belgrade, Zagreb, Prague, Bucharest and Sofia. Plus special flights to the Leipzig Autumn Fair from 3rd to 11th September. Full details from your Travel Agent or British Airways shop.

## British airways

We'll take more care of you.

Home News	2, 4, 5	Church	18	Letters	17, 22	TV & Radio	31
European News	8, 9	Court	18	Motoring	31	Theatre, etc	14
Overseas News	8, 9	Crossword	22	Obituary	18	25 Years Ago	18
Appointments	18, 20	Diary	16	Parliament	6	Universities	18
Arts	15	Engagements	18	Sale Room	18	Weather	2
Books	13	Features	14, 16	Science	18	Wills	18
Business	19-25	Law Report	12	Sport	10, 11		







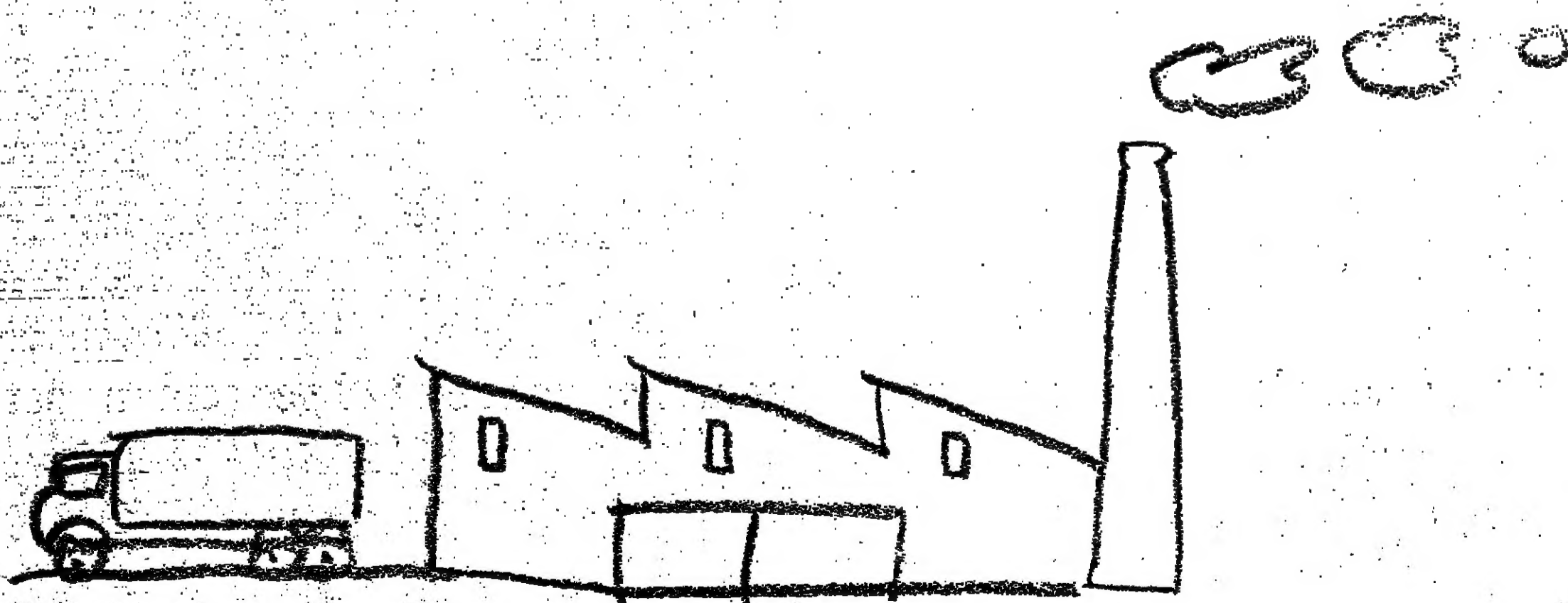
Attack on  
economy  
by left wing  
of NEC

Service industries are  
the backbone of the  
economy. They provide  
the goods and services  
which we need to live  
and work. They are the  
engine of growth and  
employment. They are  
the lifeblood of the  
economy. They are the  
foundation of the  
economy. They are the  
basis of the economy.  
They are the heart of the  
economy. They are the  
soul of the economy.  
They are the spirit of the  
economy. They are the  
life of the economy.  
They are the essence of  
the economy. They are  
the core of the economy.  
They are the center of  
the economy. They are  
the hub of the economy.  
They are the focus of  
the economy. They are  
the key to the economy.  
They are the answer to  
the economy. They are  
the solution to the  
economy. They are the  
way out of the economy.  
They are the way into  
the economy. They are  
the way to the economy.  
They are the way from  
the economy. They are  
the way to the economy.  
They are the way to the  
economy. They are the  
way to the economy.

PLP fears  
cash may go  
to National

tings

# We'll help you finance it, equip it, insure it, expand it and one day grow out of it.



## All you have to do is ask here.

NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK GROUP: FULL BANKING SERVICES INCLUDING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT LOANS, FOREIGN CURRENCY DEALING AND EXPORT FINANCE, PAYROLL AND COMPUTER SERVICES (CENTRE-FILE LTD), REGISTRAR AND ISSUE SERVICES, DOMESTIC AND EXPORT FACTORING (CREDIT FACTORING INTERNATIONAL LTD), MERCHANT BANKING (COUNTY BANK), LEASING AND INSTALLMENT CREDIT (LOMBARD NORTH CENTRAL), INCORPORATED INSURANCE BROKING (NATIONAL WESTMINSTER INSURANCE SERVICES LTD).



**NatWest**



## HOME NEWS

# Scientists unable to satisfy doubters about nuclear safety

From Peter Hennessy  
Scarborough

Scientists from the Atomic Energy Authority yesterday attempted to assuage public fears and the doubts of the scientific community about the safety of second-generation nuclear power at the annual conference of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants, at Scarborough.

The institution, which represents 100,000 officials in the scientific, technical and professional grades of the Civil Service, has taken upon itself the duty of providing a public lead on the nuclear debate. Its membership embraces the full range of opinion among government scientists.

Mr Denis Logsdail, a principal scientific officer researching methods of reprocessing nuclear fuel for the Atomic Energy Authority at Harwell, said work was in progress on the disposal of nuclear waste without hazard. He gave a warning against judging future technology by the standards of the present.

Replying to fears that terrorists might use waste to construct nuclear weapons, Mr Logsdail said it would not be easy to steal plutonium or to convert it into a bomb. "It is incredible that any self-respecting society should abandon nuclear power through surrendering to threats as yet unnamed from terrorist groups," he said.

Mr Rodney Fordham, a principal professional and technical officer working on the safety of nuclear reactors at Culcheth, Lancashire, said that only nuclear power could guarantee the continuation of present standards of life beyond the 1990s. The nuclear option would not be available to a government unless the long-term development of the nuclear industry was undertaken immediately.

The atomic scientists failed to

satisfy the doubters. Mr Tom Wood, a senior scientific officer with the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries in Scotland, said he was not convinced that nuclear debris could be stored safely anywhere on the planet. The consequences of taking a wrong decision would be infinitely worse than any future energy shortage.

The discussion focused on the 1990s, when North Sea oil would be depleted. Would there be grand children, the conference was asked, shivering in the dark, cursing us for wasting fossil fuel and not saving them an alternative energy source, or would they regret the decision to build the fast-breeder reactor and the development of a "plutonium economy"?

The debate proved inconclusive. Dr John Sargent, a botanist with the Agricultural Research Council, failed in his attempt to overturn the institution's policy of seeing "a major and expanding role for nuclear power".

But the Flowers report, published last September by the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, had the effect of softening the institution's earlier line on nuclear energy. For its executive committee, Miss Margaret Platt, assistant general secretary, recommended a cautious step-by-step approach to nuclear fuel reprocessing and fast-breeder reactors, urging the Government to keep open all its options, including the nuclear one, in planning to fill the energy gap of the 1990s.

"Snipers" condemned: Lord Peart, Lord Privy Seal, yesterday called for an end to the vilification of the Civil Service. Those who sniped at nuclear energy, he said, should realize the damage they could do to a body that was widely regarded as second to none in the world, he said.

Addressing the annual conference of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation, at Peebles, he said it was difficult to persuade specialist civil servants to forsake "the promise of future scientific glory" for a career in administration, which was a specialist in its own right.

# Nine million elm trees dead, dying or infected

From Ronald Faux  
Edinburgh

Next to fire the Forestry Commission regards Dutch elm disease as the greatest threat to the British landscape. As the first flush of spring greenery comes to elms throughout Britain local authorities will be counting the latest toll of silent devastation caused by the disease.

Of the 22 million elms in Britain nine million are now dead, dying or infected. Fewer than two million of the dead trees have been felled, chiefly because of the sweeping progress of the disease's aggressive form which in a short space in the thousands of wooded can turn a graceful elm into a crippled skeleton.

The most effective answer to halt the blight is "sanitation felling", and in the North this policy of thinning out the trees or isolating them has shown signs of success. But in southern England in particular it is feared that the tell-tale signs will soon show on yet more trees: the leafy branches or premature yellowing of foliage.

To stop the movement of diseased trees the commission is to make spot checks on timber yards handling hardwoods. It is an offence carrying a £100 penalty to move infected trees with the bark still on them.

In various parts of the country foresters meet regularly to discuss new control policies, but too often all that can be done is to wait and see how far the disease has spread.

In the north of England control has had some success. There was scarcely any further spread of the disease there last year. The public was helpful in reporting individual diseased trees to the local authorities.

Similar action has helped to keep elms in East Sussex fairly free, even though there were areas of high concentration in neighbouring counties. Glasgow and Greater Manchester also managed to hold the disease, and Norfolk has far been reported almost clear.

Other areas of England where elms grow in dense concentration have been less fortunate. The aggressive elm bark beetle attacked trees in a swathe of countryside from near Leeds to the south coast, in the west and to mid-Northumberland in the east. The spread is reported as erratic but the Home Counties have been badly affected.

Nearly half the 500,000 elms in Oxfordshire are dead. In Berkshire's 597,000 elms, 158,000 are long dead and 265,000 are dying. Of the 324,000 elms in Hertfordshire, 151,000 are dying and 52,000 are dead. Surrey has lost four fifths of its elms.

In Scotland the campaign to save the trees is most rigorous in the urban areas. The elm forms a popular landmark in many parks. The wych elm is the main Scottish species and has proved more resistant to infection.

Mountainous countryside, a cooler climate and the lower density of elms north of the border have also helped to reduce the spread. The Forestry Commission calculates the number of diseased trees in Scotland is about 500 out of a total of two million.

Even so the commission regards the situation as serious. The aggressive strain of beetle has been found in a broad arc of counties from Dumfries through Perth, Stirling, Fife, Angus and Dundee to Edinburgh. Affected regions are Tayside, Central, Lothian and Fife. Isolated outbreaks have occurred at several points in Strathclyde and the border area. The commission believes that it is unrealistic to hope that Dutch elm disease can be eradicated from an area in which it has become well established. The only practical approach is to control its spread, to contain the disease and reduce its effects.



Sir Adrian Boult, who was instrumental in the rediscovery of Elgar's only ballet score, attending rehearsals for the opening of *The Sanguine Fan* at the London Coliseum on Monday. Studying the music with him is Miss Beryl Grey, artistic director of the London Festival Ballet.

# Some kidney patients over 45 'not treated'

Kidney patients are sometimes too old for treatment at 45, says a doctor, who says resources are too limited to treat them. He estimated that the heads of hospital renal units had to refuse treatment "very, very frequently".

Dr Anthony Eisinger, director of the unit at St. Heller Hospital, Cardigan, Surrey, was commenting on a complaint from the British Kidney Patients' Association to Mr. Moyle, Minister of State for Health, that a woman aged 57 died there last week after doctors had withdrawn her treatment because the bed was needed for another patient.

Dr Eisinger, who was in charge of the case, denied that the need for the bed was a factor in the decision. It was, he thought, after much heart searching, that further treatment was not in her best interests. Kidney units operated a "cut-off" point based on age. Because of a shortage of resources, some patients had to be considered too old for treatment.

The woman in question, Mrs. Eileen Rowland, of 10, Addington, was not suitable for a transplant. The alternative was dialysis with an artificial kidney machine at home. When

patients were assessed "the question of available resources does come into it, although it did not really come into this case."

"Dialysis is not a bed of roses; it is very difficult and I have put patients on dialysis and regretted it."

Doctors had to be sure that the quality of life afterwards would be worth suffering the treatment.

In Mrs. Rowland's case he and his colleagues agreed that it was not in the best interests of the patient to continue.

One kidney unit had a cut-off point at 45; "anybody above that age is not offered treatment because of lack of resources."

In his own unit the cut-off line was "smudged", but "we think extremely hard before accepting anyone above 60."

Mr. Moyle, Minister of State for Health, said Mrs. Rowland was 57, but was too old to live because there were not enough resources to treat patients with artificial kidneys on to transplant them.

"Four thousand patients a year die in this way, and the blame should go where it lies: with the health authorities."

# Proposed rate grant displeases cities

By Christopher Warrin  
Local Government Correspondent

Britain's inner urban areas, which the Government is committed to help, will be penalised next year if the proposed rate-support grant is implemented, the Association of Metropolitan Authorities has warned the Government.

In a letter to Mr. Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, Sir Robert Thomas, retiring chairman of the Association has protested against the rules laid down for next year's settlement, and urged Mr. Shore to reconsider the matter.

The argument is mainly about the local government expenditure base to be used when deciding the distribution of the grant. Mr. Shore has decided to use the provisional total spending for 1977-78 instead of the estimated expenditure for 1977-78.

That figure, which will be two years out of date when the grant for 1978-79 is paid, is likely to favour the non-metropolitan areas at the expense of the inner urban areas because the important transfer of resources to the cities came only with the settlement for 1977-78.

The association said that the inner urban areas had suffered in past years while the shires had benefited. It believed that the figures for the expenditure base were necessary for the survival of the neglected urban areas.

Sir Robert said the use of old figures as the expenditure base, and continued "dampening" or averaging out of the distributed grant, "caused the disadvantages to the metropolitan areas to become 'very considerable indeed'."

The association had welcomed Mr. Shore's statement that the main way of helping the urban areas was through the needs element of rate support grant. "But it hardly seemed to be a very sound basis for the distribution of that needs element which can only operate against the urban areas."

Unless the "major increase" in expenditure in metropolitan areas in 1977-78 was brought into the base for calculation of the distribution of the rate support grant, the very needs of those areas reflected in that expenditure were being ignored in the distribution, Sir Robert added. This seems to be the opposite of what urban areas are claiming in their statement on aid to urban areas.

# Helicopter pilots' strike halts airport services

From Our Own Correspondent  
Aberdeen

All scheduled flights from Aberdeen airport were stopped yesterday as Bristow helicopter pilots widened their strike action. Firemen and apron workers were asked not to cross the pilots' picket line and about 2,000 passengers had to use alternative transport or defer travel plans.

The strike, now in its fifth week, was over the dismissal of a Bristow pilot who refused to accept a foreign posting. All British Airways helicopter flights between Aberdeen and the North Sea oilfields were reported to be grounded yesterday when their pilots, members

of the British Air Line Pilots Association (BALPA), refused to cross the picket line.

Last night the strike committee said the airport would be operating normally from today but similar action would be considered if there was no movement towards an honourable settlement to the dispute in the next few days.

Picketing of the Bristow base at Aberdeen and of the BP refinery at Grangemouth will continue today. The strikers said railway traffic from the refinery was halted yesterday, except for two trains carrying jet fuel for the RAF and diesel for British Rail. BP said operations at the refinery had not been impaired.

# £11,700 award in Basle air crash test case

The widower of one of the victims of the Basle air crash, which killed 77 women from four Somerset villages in 1973, was awarded £11,700 damages at a private High Court hearing in London yesterday. The claim, by Mr Harry Heritage, aged 53, of Croft End, Cheddar, against Invicta International Airlines, was as a test case for other relatives seeking compensation.

The crash also killed 17 men, 10 children and four of the crew. Invicta consented to the award under an international agreement, relatives of people killed in air crashes are automatically

entitled to up to £11,700 without having to prove negligence. Yesterday's hearing means that people claiming up to that limit will not be precluded from trying to establish claims for damages above that amount.

Mr Heritage's wife was one of the women from the villages of Cheddar, Wedmore, Congresbury and Hinton, Somerset, who died in the crash. The crash also killed 17 men, 10 children and four of the crew. Invicta consented to the award under an international agreement, relatives of people killed in air crashes are automatically

entitled to up to £11,700 without having to prove negligence. Yesterday's hearing means that people claiming up to that limit will not be precluded from trying to establish claims for damages above that amount.

Mr Heritage's wife was one of the women from the villages of Cheddar, Wedmore, Congresbury and Hinton, Somerset, who died in the crash. The crash also killed 17 men, 10 children and four of the crew. Invicta consented to the award under an international agreement, relatives of people killed in air crashes are automatically

# £5m to improve derelict land in Lothian

From Our Own Correspondent  
Edinburgh

The Lothian skyline will be improved and reshaped under a scheme announced yesterday. The Scottish Development Agency is to spend nearly £5m on rehabilitating a thousand acres of derelict industrial land in the region.

During the next five years, Lothian Regional Council, acting for the agency, will carry out 24 schemes to remove the scars of old industry and turn land sterilized by mining spoil into sites for housing and industry, agriculture and forestry, recreation and leisure.

The first scheme will be to reshape a 28-acre colliery spoil heap sitting on the skyline at Easthouses. An old and ugly railway line will be filled in, a wooded common established, and space created for small industrial development. At least 23 other spoil heaps will be remodelled or erased.

# MPs to give evidence for dismissed columnist

By a Staff Reporter

Ten days have been set aside at a London industrial tribunal for a resumed hearing of a Fleet Street columnist's claim that he was unfairly dismissed by the *Financial Times*.

The case was heard for three days earlier this month. The claim is being made by Mr. C. H. Gordon Tether, aged 64, of Worplesdon, Surrey, who wrote the *Financial Times* for 21 years until he was dismissed in September 1976. He is seeking reinstatement.

When the hearing resumes on a date to be fixed Mr. Tether intends to call several MPs and other people in public life to give evidence. Mrs. Hart, Minister of State for the Environment, has already given evidence for him.

When the hearing began, Mr. Thomas Morrison, for the newspaper, said that towards the end of Mr. Tether's employment his performance had deteriorated to a point beyond what was acceptable. It had become "becoming and arrogant" to the point where "it was no longer compatible with the requirements of a quality newspaper."

He said Mr. Tether felt he had complete freedom to write what he liked, about what he liked, and he had asserted that the freedom of the press was at the heart of his right as a journalist.

The editor had asserted, on the other hand, that whatever freedom Mr. Tether might have had, the content of his writing was not his own. It was the property of the newspaper, and he had to write for the newspaper, not for himself.

Mrs. Hart, in her evidence for Mr. Tether, said that she had not noticed any change in the articles in recent years and a suggestion that they had deteriorated was "pretty flat nonsense."

Mr. Tether, who showed a "deep, underlying knowledge" of the article, was not "hectoring."

# Articled clerks 'scarcely paid a living wage'

By Our Legal Correspondent

A questionnaire on the pay of solicitors' articled clerks has shown that more than half of clerks in London, and more than four fifths outside, received starting salaries of less than £25 a week.

The Associated Members (articled clerks) Group of the Law Society, which conducted the survey, says that £10 a week should be added to those figures to take into account rises since the survey was conducted, in late 1975. But, it adds, that clerks are still scarcely paid a living wage, and many have to be financially assisted by parents, spouses or part-time jobs.

The group, in its evidence to the Royal Commission on Legal Services, has called for the drafting up of a national pay scale. It also wants an independent legal training board to be responsible for the education and training of solicitors.

# Shawcross attack on Mr Foot's style

By a Staff Reporter

Lord Shawcross, QC, the meritorious General, made personal attack on Mr Foot, Leader of the Commons, yesterday for his remarks about unions and the judiciary.

Addressing a meeting of the Wider Share Ownership Committee in London, Lord Shawcross rejected Mr Foot's comment that judges had shown a "bias" against trade union interests.

"That ranting, rising, times almost screaming, y that I listened to last night reminded me of a man who is a thing called a 'bitch', he said. And some of the content, Mr Foot, once through the good parliamentarian seems to be developing all instincts of a dictator. Finally, he is too old to be a dictator."

Lord Shawcross added, contrary to Mr Foot's remark to the Union of Post Office Workers, judges had been great protectors of the freedom of the individual, a freedom Mr Foot did not appear to acknowledge. "The right of freedom of trade unions, their officials, to interfere with what used to be thought of as my rights," Lord Shawcross said.

Mr Foot's claim that his speech was intended, in historical context, to give a view of the context in which they were delivered, should have been told of to coming legislation grant them the right to strike.

Lord Shawcross said that the "bitch" remark was a personal attack on Mr Foot, and that the "bitch" remark was a personal attack on Mr Foot, and that the "bitch" remark was a personal attack on Mr Foot.

Rate rise 'might kill Welsh Rugby Union'

Fears that the Welsh Rugby Union might be forced out of existence were raised yesterday when the Welsh Rugby Union announced a 25 per cent increase in its subscription rates.

Mr Kenneth Harris, the union's treasurer for 25 years, told the court that the decision to raise the rate would force the union out of Cardiff and eventually lead to its complete collapse.

Mr Colin Ryland, representing the union, described the decision as "absolutely absurd." Comparing the A Park rates with Twickenham, Mr Ryland said the Welsh Rugby Union, with its capacity of 20,000, had a value of £250,000. For Twickenham, with an 80,000 capacity and which substantial concessions are allowed in the assessment, the valuation is £4,500.

Mr Ryland said that for first time the assessors were to take valuation of the cap of the buildings.

"This means the end of WRU. By the time the bill is finished the rate will be too great to bear," he said.

Mr Harris said the rate could result in the Welsh Rugby Union being forced out of Swansea or Newport. "Our come in that case would wholly insufficient. At stage, I should prefer to up," he said.

Footballer dies

Mr Tony Aveyard, aged 21, footballer with the Scarborough team, died yesterday, two days after receiving a head injury during a match against Boro.

# Financial crisis for some law centres

By Our Legal Correspondent

The Neighbourhood Law Centres relying on funds from the Lord Chancellor's Department are facing a financial crisis and the possibility of having to reduce significantly the services they offer clients.

Legal workers representing seven centres, and one legal advice centre, lobbied MPs yesterday, saying that the Chancellor had agreed to provide only £200,000 of the £250,000 needed to sustain services at last year's level.

The law centres affected are in Newham, North Kensington, Holloway and Tower Hamlets (all in London), Adamsdown (Cardiff), Salford (Birmingham) and Brighton. Most other law centres are financed mainly by local authorities.

# BBC tries to stop cup disruption

A High Court judge is expected to rule today on a BBC application for an injunction preventing the Association of Broadcasting and Allied Staff taking action to stop the television relay to South Africa of Saturday's FA Cup Final.

The BBC is seeking to restrain the association from taking industrial action in "service of a political aim." Thirty-six countries, in addition to South Africa, are due to receive the BBC transmission, almost half of them by the same satellite as that carrying the South African relay.



# HOME NEWS

## Rail fare rises will depend on inflation level, chairman says

By Michael Bailey

British Rail improved operating results and cut state support despite recession and inflation last year, Mr Peter Parker discloses in his first annual report as chairman. But the success was short-term, he says, having been bought "at a calculated cost in terms of the future".

The obligations imposed on the railways in 1974 are increasing in real terms, Mr Parker says, and there is an urgent need for a coherent policy towards the railways in the forthcoming White Paper.

Passenger traffic dropped 5 per cent to 17,800 million passenger miles after a series of fare rises that brought in an extra £250m over two years. But from the last fare rise in March to the end of the year traffic rose by 6 per cent and that trend is continuing in 1977, despite a further fare rise in January.

On the prospect of higher fares this autumn, Mr Parker remains slightly equivocal. The January increase should take care of inflation until the autumn, he says, and having raised fares to their proper market levels the board hopes that further rises will be no greater than inflation, except where competitive quality justifies more.

To the extent that inflation is held at the level predicted by the Government and to the extent that the market responds to our selling activity, so will depend any action we need to take on levels of fares in the autumn.

There is no hitchhiking from the fact that London and South-east computers are at the heart of the fare issue, Mr Parker says. "We remain convinced that our mode is the most efficient for bringing 400,000 workers into London each day. And we remain resolute in trying to make cost reductions throughout the operations."

That said, however, the middle remains: if there are drastic increases in real terms

## Tories upset by TUC action over journalist

By Our Labour Staff

The Shadow Cabinet yesterday discussed the decision by the TUC press office to refuse information to Mr John Hosken, BBC Radio's industrial correspondent, because of his decision to leave the National Union of Journalists for a rival body.

Mr James Prior, Tory spokesman on employment, said: "It would be a disgrace for Mr Hosken to be denied information. We are very worried about this matter, but we feel it should be something the TUC should sort out itself."

The Shadow Cabinet is unlikely to initiate any direct parliamentary action until it learns what ruling Mr. Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, gives to his press officers when he returns from Rome next week.

Yesterday a press officer at TUC headquarters said that they had decided to deal initially with Mr Hosken until they heard Mr Murray's view. Mr Hosken, who was an NUJ member for 21 years, decided to join the rival Institute of Journalists, which is not affiliated to the TUC, after a disagreement with the NUJ branch at his office. He said yesterday: "I am a committed trade unionist and always will be. I decided to join the union which I believe represents my interests best."

If Mr Murray takes in favour of his press officers' action the issue will raise one of the controversies over press freedom. The TUC press officers are understood to have cited rule 5a of the TUC rule book barring anyone from belonging to the general public, and his "privately assisted" in the "production of anything made by non-union labour".

Although the Institute of Journalists is not affiliated to the TUC, it is a certified trade union. Yesterday the BBC pledged full support to Mr Hosken. Mr Murray will have to decide whether any restriction on non-NUJ journalists such as Mr Hosken should extend to TUC press conferences and private briefings.

## Tour untroubled as nationalist activity fails to take place

### The Queen visits Scots council house family

From Penny Simon, Cumbernauld

It must be a strange sensation to walk through a shopping centre and see your face staring at you from a thousand tea towels, mugs and trays in shop windows.

It happened to the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh yesterday, when they were clearly determined to show themselves to as many people as possible during a series of walkabouts on their jubilee journey through Scotland.

The souvenirs were displayed in the covered shopping centre in Cumbernauld, where thousands of hot and excited children waited for hours to wave their flags, some having made, some costing 12p, at the royal couple.

The Duke of Edinburgh stopped for short chats but the Queen was a little more reserved.

Plans for the tour began 18 months ago and at first it was seen in Scotland as simply part of the jubilee celebrations. But the Queen's remarks about unity in a speech this month during a jubilee ceremony in Westminster Hall have given it a slightly political flavour.

The ceremonial pageantry, noise and colour to which Glasgow was treated when the Queen arrived there on Tuesday was carefully managed and had 200,000 citizens out on the streets, responding to the request, unsaid but nevertheless there: "Do not forget that I am your Queen as well."

The Household Cavalry made its first appearance in the city since Oliver Cromwell's day. It was the Queen's express wish that the tour should begin in Glasgow, rather than Edinburgh, since she felt Glasgow tended to be neglected on ceremonial occasions.

Yesterday passed without trouble despite police fears of possible nationalist activity. The Scottish National Party controls Cumbernauld District Council and feeling for the party is strong there.

The day began with a visit to Govan, where the Queen opened a £380,000 walkway, part of a project to transform derelict land on the Clyde. The Queen and the Duke took their



The Queen receiving a bouquet yesterday from Wendy Stewart, aged eight, a spina bifida victim, when visiting a new housing estate at Govan, Glasgow.

first walk of the day, stopping to go into a new council house occupied by Mr Albert Currie and his family, all of whom were extremely excited. The entourage proceeded to Burroughs Machines, Cumbernauld's largest employer, where computers are designed and assembled.

A further tour on foot followed lunch, the royal couple visiting Greenfaulds housing estate. A policeman there said that he had never seen so many children in his life. Later the Queen went to Striding, today she visits Perth and Dundee. Bonquet. While walking in Govan the Queen was presented

with a bouquet of pink and white roses and carnations from Wendy Stewart, aged eight, a spina bifida victim, who is confined to a wheelchair. The Queen asked me how old I was and where I went to school, Wendy said. "She was lovely."

## Police set up new complaints bureau

By Our Crime Correspondent

Mr David McNee, who was appointed Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police last month, has reorganised procedures for investigating complaints against any of his 22,493 officers.

A new department, the Complaints and Investigation Bureau, will be set up under the control of Mr Colin Woods, the deputy commissioner.

The A10 department set up by Sir Robert Mark, the former commissioner, to investigate complaints will become one of three branches dealing solely with complaints and discipline.

The new bureau will start work on June 1, the day the Government's Police Complaints Board begins adjudicating cases referred to it under the Police Act.

The new changes at Scotland Yard are aimed at speeding present procedures and concentrating all aspects of internal discipline in one department.

## Complaints over railway publicity upheld

The Advertising Standards Authority has upheld complaints that British Rail dwelt unnecessarily on an appeal to fear in an advertisement for Inter-City train services.

The advertisement was headed: "Have you considered the effect a long car journey can have on your heart?" and quoted tests on businessmen to compare the heart stresses caused by train and car travel.

The authority medical consultant accepted the research data, but it was considered that the way in which the research was interpreted was open to criticism. British Rail has since revised its advertising material.

Other complaints upheld included three against the Electricity Council for misleading descriptions of the benefits of off-peak electric central heating.

## Definition of rural bus needs urged

By Our Transport Correspondent

The provision of minimum levels of service by public transport in rural areas, was urged by the National Bus Company yesterday. A White Paper on transport policy is to be published later this month.

With rural bus services declining and subsidies rising rapidly, the NBC wants a clearer definition by the Government and local authorities of the level of service needed by rural communities, and a commitment to support them.

"We should like to see a more positive approach and firmer commitment to minimum levels of service in the White Paper," the company said yesterday.

A 120-page study carried out for NBC by a firm of consultants found that few local authorities had attempted to specify the transport needs of rural areas.

Faced with declining services, central government and most hire counties have provided financial support to maintain higher levels of service than would be commercially justified, the report says.

## Manx MPs seek visit by judge before birch ruling

From John Chatteris, Douglas

The Isle of Man Government will be persuaded at least one of the seven European judges due to rule shortly on the validity of its birching policy to visit the ancient kingdom before the issue goes "on appeal" to Strasbourg.

Corrin, the island's Attorney General, said in Douglas yesterday.

He was speaking during a debate in Tynwald, the Manx parliament, which reaffirmed its commitment to retain birching as a deterrent for crimes of violence.

The many speakers who supported retention of birching and voted for a motion calling on the British Government to support them at the forthcoming hearings of the European Court of Human Rights included the Bishop of Sodor and Man, the Right Rev Vernon Nicholls.

He said that the Isle of Man enjoyed a way of life envied by many other countries. It was built upon a code of justice and morality, and the people of the island were dedicated to both.

He denied that the Manx people were cruel or sadistic

in wanting to retain birching for crimes of violence. They were trying to preserve a way of life for their own residents and to keep the island a place of peace, friendship and happiness for those who visited it on holiday.

The bishop said crime in the Isle of Man had dropped by 10 per cent in 1975 and by a further 2.2 per cent in 1976.

"Where else in Europe can you find such statistics?" he asked.

Only one member of Tynwald, Mr Jack Nivison, a member of the Legislative Council (upper house), voted against the three-point motion reaffirming the retention of "judicial corporal punishment" for violent crimes against the person committed by males under the age of 21. It also called on the United Kingdom Government to uphold Tynwald's policy and secure a reversal of the declaration of the European Human Rights Commission last December that birching was a "degrading" form of punishment.

The birching issue is due to come before the European Human Rights Court in Strasbourg in the autumn.

## 'Which?' recommends: Do your own conveyancing

By Robin Young

It is worth shopping around when choosing a solicitor, or perhaps even doing the job oneself, according to this month's edition of Which?, the consumer's Association magazine.

In a survey of 2,800 members of the association a quarter said Which? that they thought they had received poor value for money from solicitors. Half complained that they had not been kept informed about the progress of their cases.

Charges for the range of services which solicitors are most often employed varied widely. One member of the association paid £60 for the conveyancing involved in selling one house and buying another, after having been quoted £300 by the solicitor in another solicitor's estimate. Similarly, estimates for drawing up a straightforward will varied from three guineas to £20.

Which? suggests doing without a solicitor if the matter is straightforward. The consequent savings would average £220 on buying and selling £13,000 houses, £20 on drawing up a will, and £100 on an uncomplicated divorce.

The largest savings would be possible in handling probate: more than £800 on a £50,000 estate.

The magazine reports that only two of 41 members who had done their own conveyancing found it at all difficult.

The 92 who handled probate took "amazingly variable" lengths of time. Almost half had to take time from their jobs to complete the probate work. Members found getting their own divorces "simply" but almost a third of those who made their own wills worried them in such a way that they might not have the intended effect in certain circumstances.

## Warning against splitting of postal services

Mr Tom Jackson, general secretary of the Union of Post Office Workers, said yesterday that splitting the Post Office would cost millions. His union would fight any move to separate postal services from telecommunications.

He said at Bournemouth, where the union is holding its conference, that he feared that a leak from the Carter report would mean a split had been recommended.

"Splitting will bring higher prices and communications chaos," he said. It would be like Noah's Ark, with arbitrators carrying two by two: two boards, two chairmen, two principal private secretaries, two of everything down to doorkeepers.

The £5m salary bill at the board's London headquarters would be duplicated. There would be no communication policy. The two industries would grow as far apart as gas and electricity, coal and oil.

## Press talks unresolved

By Our Labour Staff

Talks aimed at ending a five-month journalistic dispute at East Midlands Allied Press, Peterborough, broke up inconclusively after three hours last night. The issue concerns the National Union of Journalists and the rival Institute of Journalists.

The talks were conducted at the TUC headquarters in London under the aegis of Mr William Keys, chairman of the TUC printing industries committee, who has emerged as the chief mediator. Another session is planned today.

Peace now depends on nine

NUJ members who joined the institute during an industrial dispute in defiance of union rules. The nine who were not present at last night's talks have rejected a formula proposed by Mr Keys because they fear they will be caught in a 100 per cent membership move by the NUJ if they renounce allegiance to the institute.

Under Mr Keys's peace formula the nine were advised to submit themselves to the NUJ's disciplinary procedures. They indicated their willingness to do so if they received an undertaking that once the issue is resolved they will have the option of leaving the NUJ.

## Decree for actor

Mr William James Marlowe, aged 46, the actor of Park Lane, Teddington, London, was granted a decree nisi yesterday against his wife, Catherine, aged 32, the actress.

## Crossing patrols cut

Wiltshire County Council is to stop its remaining 124 lunch-time patrols at school crossings from next month as part of its education spending cuts.



## Catch the new look DC-9 that catches the plane to Houston.

Every day, from 15 British airports, you can fly to Amsterdam, Europe's most up-to-date airport, where all facilities are together in one streamlined terminal.

And now, from Heathrow, Manchester and Glasgow, you can fly on KLM's new wide-body look DC-9s.

Inside, you'll find much more room, including more room for legs and knees.

The newly designed seats are among the most comfortable you'll find on any airline. Each seat is contoured with full thigh support and extra cushioning for the back.

Further features include a new ceiling with concealed lighting, and overhead lockers (on most of our new DC-9s) for you to stow your cabin luggage.

Yet, although you gain the comfort of a wide-

bodied plane, you travel with a maximum of only 108 passengers.

The result is not only that you get more attentive service on the plane, but that you're off the plane, and ready for your connecting flight, in just a few minutes. The luggage transfer is quicker too.

Which is yet another time saving reason for choosing Amsterdam Airport as your transfer point for fast flights by modern KLM jets to the rest of Europe, North America, Africa, Near/Middle/Far East, Australia and Japan.

So, if you want to go to Houston or any other capital city on KLM's far-ranging network, just go to Amsterdam, it's your local intercontinental airport.

Ask your Travel Agent for KLM's quick-reference timetable of world-wide connections from your local airport or call at your nearest KLM Office.



Wherever you're going, Amsterdam Airport is on the way.

## Council post revived

Humberide County Council, control of which has just been captured by the Conservatives, yesterday reversed a decision to replace the director of administration, Mr J. Haydon, who is due to retire soon.







# Trust Houses Forte works for everybody

As a British company we are proud that Trust Houses Forte is now probably the largest hotel, catering and leisure group in the world.

- 1** Because - that means we are providing a really satisfactory and essential service to our millions of customers in Britain, and increasingly throughout the world.
- 2** Because - it enables us to give a satisfactory return to our 60,000 investors.
- 3** Because - we continue to provide a livelihood for more and more people.
- 4** Because - in Britain alone, Trust Houses Forte provides employment for over 52,000 people.

In fact the hotel and catering industry provides jobs for 1,300,000 and is the fourth largest employer of labour in the country. Not surprising, when this service industry produced over £2,000 million in foreign currency earnings last year - we congratulate the British Tourist Authority on its target of £3,000 million for the coming year.

As the market leader of the hotel and catering industry in Britain, Trust Houses Forte takes its responsibilities seriously. We know that our current and future prosperity as a company depends principally upon recruiting and training the right people. It takes years to develop the dedication, skill and experience which are essential to the efficient running of an organisation of our size. So we place a high priority on training. Our central training bill this year is over £1,500,000. In addition we have over 3,000 qualified trainers working full time. This is for us a major investment in people and money. We believe this is essential for the future prosperity of our industry.

**This is how we are making our contribution to Britain's economy**

**Ring 01-567 3444 or 061-969 6111  
for reservations at any of our 800 hotels worldwide**

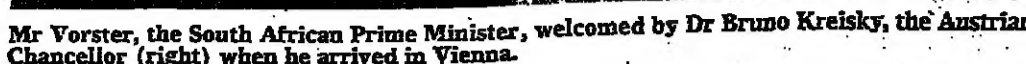


**Hotels**



# US-Soviet negotiations on arms limitation resume after 'weather warfare' ban is signed

## Nato states agree to spend 3 pc more



## S Africa playing for high stakes in Vorster-Mondale talks

# Libyans and Syrians disagree on Eritrea

## Licences proposed for non-EEC fishermen

In addition, every non-EEC trawler would have to inform

## Rome rally called off by students

# A weather eye on politics

## French Cabinet agrees European poll Bill

## Fabians spell out dilemma on European elections

## Señor Suárez's right to stand in poll confirmed

## Murdered girl's father to visit convicted man

## Bomb attack on rightist party worker in Beirut

Last night, an explosion damaged a four-storey building in Sidon and slightly wounded 10 people. Residents said that the bombs had been planted at the entrance to the clinic of a physician married to a



OVERSEAS

# US report says Russia vulnerable to nuclear attack despite extensive civil defence preparation

From Patrick Bruogan, Washington, May 18

A study released by a congressional committee here today says the Soviet Union could not survive a nuclear attack despite its preparations for civil defence. It concludes that those who argue that the preparations are evidence of Soviet plans for a surprise attack are mistaken.

The argument put forward by super-hawks here and in Europe is that the Soviet Union is equipping itself with an over-abundance of offensive weapons while concentrating on a defence of its industry and population from nuclear attack.

Were this true, the Soviet Union could either destroy the West in a surprise attack, and then survive, or else force the West to capitulate without war because of its inability to survive a nuclear attack.

The Joint Committee on Defense Protection of the two houses, under the chairmanship of Senator William Proxmire, emphasizes that this is a complete nonsense.

It finds no serious evidence that the Soviet Union is trying to protect its industry against nuclear attack, and that its plans for providing shelter for the population and for evacuating cities are merely window-dressing to encourage a "siege mentality" among citizens.

The committee thus agrees with successive Secretaries of Defense. It quotes Mr. Harold Brown, the present Secretary, who said in January that "the Soviet Union could not attack the United States without our being able to deliver a devastating retaliatory blow destroying the functioning of modern society. I believe the Soviet civil defence effort can be overcome by reorganizing the United States missile force."

The report repeatedly points out that the attacker is capable of much greater mobility than the defender. It says that it would be wholly impractical for the Soviet Union (or for the United States) to protect every important industrial site against even a light attack, and impossible to defend anything against "silo-busting" weapons.

It gives a list of the industrial targets whose destruction would ensure the destruction also of Russian society. It observes that the Soviet administrative machinery is highly centralized and the country is thus more vulnerable than the decentralized American society.

The report says "that a carefully configured nuclear attack on the Soviet Union would so aggravate existing weaknesses in the economic structure that efforts to continue prosecuting any sort of war beyond a territorial defence would be extremely difficult, if not impossible."

## Turnhalle plan backed by white electorate

From Our Correspondent Johannesburg, May 18

Meaningless though it all may be, about 95 per cent of white voters in South-West Africa (Namibia) have approved the independence plan drawn up by the multiracial Turnhalle constitutional conference in Windhoek.

This was the picture tonight with results known in 17 of 18 constituencies. The final result will probably be known tomorrow. The turnout was 62 per cent, a little less than had been hoped for, but sufficient, according to white Turnhalle leaders, to give them a strong mandate to go ahead with implementing constitutional changes.

Mr. Abraham du Plessis, leader of the National Party in South-West Africa and head of the white delegation at the Turnhalle, said there should no longer be any doubt that the whites had faith in the future of the territory.

Some 52,000 of South-West Africa's 100,000 whites were eligible to vote, including those registered in the harbour town of Walvis Bay, a South African enclave which Mr. Vorster, the Prime Minister, has stated that Pretoria will never relinquish. About a third of the 22,000 Germans living in the territory were ineligible because they had never bothered to take out South African papers.

The significance of the referendum, of course, has been undermined by the message conveyed to Mr. Vorster by the envoys of five leading Western nations that the Turnhalle independence formula is unacceptable.

The authorities must be thankful that President Carter delayed until last night his statement that strong action by the United States and the Western allies is to be expected if Pretoria does not relax its hold on South-West Africa.

If the statement had come 24 hours earlier, it is reasonable to assume that the 5 per cent vote against the Turnhalle constitutional plan would have been much larger.

## Burglaries may have had FBI approval

From Jerry Oppenheimer, Washington, May 18

Mr. William Sullivan, an assistant to the late J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, has conceded that it is possible that he gave FBI agents the go-ahead for two or three surreptitious entries in their pursuit of radical fugitives in the early 1970s.

In an interview with the Washington Star, Mr. Sullivan also acknowledged that he was told after the fact but condoned a break-in by agents in the Boston area in 1970 or 1971 in their hunt for a fugitive wanted in connection with a national security matter.

Mr. Sullivan, who retired in 1972 as the bureau's third-ranking official, said he did not question the Boston action even though Mr. Hoover had banned so-called black-bag jobs in 1966. Asked specifically whether he had approved requests from subordinates to use surreptitious entries in their hunt for fugitive members of the Weathermen organization in the early 1970s, Mr. Sullivan said: "It could have happened, it's possible."

He said he had a hazy recollection that he received two such requests from the New York regional office and possibly one from the Washington field office in 1970, or 1971. "At the time I was getting 40 or 50 calls a day from the field offices, so it could have happened," he said.

Mr. Sullivan emphasized that he had never personally initiated such actions and could not definitely recall whether he had responded to such requests, though he would have approved them.

The Justice Department has begun an inquiry into allegations that Mr. Sullivan initiated the illegal operations under pressure from the Nixon White House and Justice Department officials serving under Mr. John Mitchell, then Attorney General.

There have been allegations that Mr. Sullivan went along with the plan in hopes of apprehending the fugitives and impressing President Nixon enough to be appointed successor to Mr. Hoover.

Mr. Benjamin Civiletti, Assistant Attorney General, and Mr. Phil Jordan, a special assistant to the Attorney General, questioned Mr. Sullivan extensively on Monday about his knowledge of the illegal FBI activities.

Mr. Sullivan's lawyer yesterday denied reports that Mr. Sullivan had acknowledged to the two officials that he authorized illegal investigative operations under pressure from the Nixon White House and with the approval of Justice Department officials.

They had a long session and they asked Bill a lot of things, but his memory was absolutely foggy," the lawyer said.

It was learnt last night that Mr. Sullivan, in response to questions from Mr. Civiletti and Mr. Jordan, claimed that President Nixon and his predecessors at the White House had been aware that the FBI used break-ins and other questionable methods in both foreign and domestic intelligence investigations.

During the questioning, Mr. Sullivan was said to have denied knowing that either Mr. Mitchell or Mr. Robert Mardian, who served as head of the Justice Department's internal security division in the early 1970s, had knowledge of or ran any of the illegal bureau activities now under investigation.

Mr. Sullivan also was said to have been questioned extensively about his own alleged role in granting requests for surreptitious entries.

A good portion of the questioning was understood to have been devoted to draft the so-called Houston plan in 1970. The plan to coordinate law enforcement investigations of radicals of both the left and right, was approved by President Nixon, but cancelled a short time later because of Mr. Hoover's opposition.

One source said Mr. Sullivan might be interviewed again and possibly called to appear before a federal grand jury in Washington that is expected to hear evidence regarding the role of FBI headquarters personnel in the use of illegal investigative activities during the past five years.—Washington Star.



The fossil of a hitherto unknown bird, said to be 20 million years old, found in a mine in Shantung, China. Its size was not stated.

## Spies who made too much profit

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington, May 18

United States naval intelligence is today reported to have abandoned a sideline overseas spying operation that had been helping court of Soviet ships in foreign ports, among other secret duties.

According to Pentagon reports, the use of commercial cover by some of its agents led to embarrassing profitable business ventures. It is also said that the intelligence provided by the unit was more easily obtainable through technical means—surveillance by satellite and electronic eaves.

The Washington Post today describes the unit as such a crack super-secret spy unit that it is too hot to handle and so on.

## Mr Carter abandons wiretapping powers

From Fred Emery, Washington, May 18

President Carter today surrendered the historic claim of "inherent" presidential power to order without judicial control, electronic surveillance, including telephone tapping, of anyone suspected of foreign spying.

The President sent a Bill to Congress that would require a federal judge's warrant before any such electronic surveillance could be undertaken by counter-intelligence authorities. The provision of a warrant applies to all persons here, although the Bill's provisions allow judges varying standards between American citizens and foreigners.

Highway a court warrant has been mandatory only for telephone tapping of suspects in ordinary criminal cases. This new Bill would outlaw a repetition of President Nixon's order for the so-called "Kissinger wiretaps" of officials and journalists suspected of national security leaks, which came to form part of Mr. Nixon's defences in the Watergate scandal.

It is, of course, a consequence of Watergate and the ensuing demand for accountability and due process that would make British security services blench.

At a rose garden ceremony launching the Bill, President Carter claimed that it would resolve "one of the most difficult tasks in a free society: to protect American citizens from unnecessary government intrusion and abuse of power."

He said the same time provide an "adequate intelligence device."

## Japanese trawler arrested

Tokyo, May 18.—Russia today arrested a Japanese fishing boat off one of four Soviet-held islands claimed by Japan, the Japanese Maritime Safety Agency said.

The seizure by a Soviet patrol boat of the 9.9 ton No 18 Shoho Maru with five crew came as the two governments were close to agreement on an interim fisheries pact which includes the disputed area.

Mr. Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Agriculture Minister, and Mr. Alexander Lukin, the Soviet Fisheries Minister, met again today in Moscow.

## Calypso music greets US tourists in Cuba

Havana, May 18.—The first group of American tourists to visit Cuba for 16 years landed here yesterday to an enthusiastic welcome from thousands of Cubans lining the street outside the harbour.

On board their ship, the phone were some 360 Americans. The ship drew up to the quay to the sound of euphonious playing from brass bands on the shore.

It was clear that Cuba was vying to make the visit a success. Girls from Cuban universities, dressed in traditional Caribbean costumes, played Caribbean songs. Relations between the United States and Cuba have improved since President Carter came to power at the beginning of the year. A number of Congressmen and businessmen have visited Havana and some sporting contacts have also begun.

However, several problems remain to be solved. The Senate foreign relations committee has not yet heard of the United States naval base in Guantanamo, and Cuba's military presence in Angola. —Reuter.

## Killer of Robert Kennedy to break silence

Los Angeles, May 18.—Sirhan Sirhan, the Palestinian refugee serving a life sentence for the assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy in 1968, has decided to break his silence and talk about the killing.

He sent word through his lawyer yesterday that he would like to meet Mr. Edward Ward and Mr. Kenneth Blum, the two Los Angeles County supervisors who had opened public hearings in their investigation of unsolved aspects of the Sirhan case.

Since Mr. Sirhan's trial in 1969, speculation has arisen that a "second gun" may have been fired by someone else on the night of the assassination. —AP.

## Chinese market or English technical press

Peking, May 18.—Mr. Robert Maxwell, the British publisher, is predicted to be a booming market for English-language scientific and technical journals in China.

Mr. Maxwell, who has had several days of talks in Peking, said that with the emphasis on scientific research, there would be a market measurable in millions of pounds.

He said China had increased demand for journals produced by his own company, Pergamon Press, and he hoped to publish Chinese scientific journals.

One of Pergamon's journals published shortly after a skin-deeping machine for easing cancer of the cervix, said.—Reuter.

## Investigation of Filipino woman in torture case

Manila, May 18.—Military sources said today that a Filipino woman, whose allegations of torture prompted a protest by the United States, is being investigated.

They said that Mrs. Trinidad Herrera, who is 37, was the former president of an organization which the authorities believed to be a front for the banned Communist Party.

Preliminary investigations had also begun into alleged use of aliases by Mrs. Herrera to conceal her identity and alleged violation by her of a martial law order prohibiting rallies, demonstrations and secret meetings.

Mrs. Herrera, a community worker in the Manila waterfront district of Tondo, was detained on April 26 on suspicion of having taken part in "subversive" activities.

Her complaints of torture by electric shock and general abuse of her body during detention aroused protests to the Philippines Government by the United States State Department and by Filipino Roman Catholic bishops.

President Marcos has ordered an investigation of her case and the court martial of anyone accused.

He has said that medical examinations tend to refute Mrs. Herrera's allegation of torture. But this has been challenged by a lawyer, Francisco Rodriguez, a former senator, who said there was eyewitness evidence of marks on her body resulting from the shock treatment.—Reuter.

## Opium growers cash in on coffee

From Peter Hazellhurst, Bangkok, May 18

A fight for survival which carries important implications for the rest of the world has been waged in a remote corner of the accessible hills of northeast Thailand. It is a fight between a highly-prized plant.

One of the fragile poppy, the source of opium and its by-product heroin, which now fetches \$750,000-400,000 a kilogram of the streets of New York.

The other is the coffee tree, reduced into Asia's Golden Triangle three years ago as a result of a United Nations eradication scheme to wipe out Thailand's opium cultivation with alternative cash crops.

Their traditional form of opium, the opium poppy, it is estimated that Thailand produces approximately 70 tons of opium a year. Refined opium in secret jungle laboratories, this amount would reduce seven tons of opium or heroin. Rougher calculations suggest that poppy cultivators in Thailand's northeast, Laos and southern Burma, produce a further 500 tons of opium a year.

A large amount of this opium is consumed by local addicts as medicine by the hill people but an equally large quantity is smuggled out in the form of heroin by feudal warlords in the isolated Shan state, eastern Burma and southern Laos. It eventually passes through middlemen with ever-

increasing profits into the hands of international syndicates.

The risks are great: the Thai police have increased their patrols and searches this year, and drug traffickers face summary execution. But the profits are enormous.

At current prices the poppy cultivators receive £250 for 10 kilograms of opium. Converted into one kilogram of heroin, the refined poppy latex fetches £735 in Bangkok. After passing through middlemen and couriers the same amount sells for £440,000 on the streets of New York.

Although the cultivation of the opium poppy is technically banned under Thai law, the Government is forced to turn a blind eye to the thousands of acres of red and white flowers which spring up in the hills each year.

It believes that it will alienate the 300,000 hill people in northern Thailand and drive them into the arms of communist insurgents. It eradicates the poppy fields without offering the area other sources of income.

Mr. Ian Williams, director of the United Nations programme for drug abuse control in Thailand, says: "These are simple people. They do not grow poppy to make a fortune. An average family makes about £200 a year. They simply sell the opium to buy rice and essential commodities."

A large part of the programme is a poppy scheme to establish whether the hill people can be persuaded to cultivate other cash crops. During the past five years UN agronomists, led by Mr. Dick Mann, the project manager in Chiang Mai, have introduced a number of substitute crops including coffee, kidney beans, pyrethrum, oriental tobacco and vegetable seeds.

Coffee, harvested for the first time this year, has so far proved to be the most lucrative and successful rival to the poppy.

Fields of red and white poppies still grow alongside the rows of young coffee trees in Doi Sam Mun, a small hamlet near the Burmese border and one of the five key sites which fall under the United Nations pilot scheme.

At first the villagers were suspicious of the new crops, but they are now beginning to realize the advantages. In Doi Sam Mun they found that they earned £350 from cultivating coffee this year "on one third of an acre. The same area would produce £35 of opium."

In Ban Phu, another village in the scheme, many of the hill people are growing kidney beans. Mr. Nai Ning, the headman, who earned £600 from his crop of kidney beans, says he will never grow the opium poppy again.

This year's coffee crop amounted to a mere 10 tons but the United Nations hopes to introduce millions of seedlings over the next two years.

# Where there's life, let there be hope.

## Christian Aid Week.

### May 16-21.

Christian Aid PO Box 1 London SW9 8BH Telephone 01-733 5500




















**MARVIN KONTZ**

at the  
**London Coliseum**




Late show Friday and Saturday 11.15 p.m.


ONE MAN COULD SAVE SHERLOCK HOLMES  
FROM CERTAIN DEATH! SIGMUND FREUD.




**THE SEVEN-PER-CENT  
SOLUTION<sup>AA</sup>**




ALAN  
ARKIN




VANESSA  
REDGRAVE




ROBERT  
DUVALL



NICOL  
WILLIAMSON



SAMANTHA  
EGGAR




LAURENCE  
OLIVIER

A HERBERT ROSS FILM

ALAN ARKIN • VANESSA REDGRAVE • ROBERT DUVAL and NICOL WILLIAMSON  
as Sigmund Freud      as Dr. Wilson      as Sherlock Holmes

in "THE SEVEN-PER-CENT SOLUTION"

also starring LAURENCE OLIVIER as Professor Moriarty • JOEL GREY • SAMANTHA EGGAR  
CHARLES GRAY • GEORGIA BROWN • REGINE • and JEREMY KEMP Screenplay by NICHOLAS MEYER

Based on the work by NICHOLAS MEYER Produced and Directed by HERBERT ROSS Music by JOHN ADDISON Executive Producers ARLENE GELLERS and ALEX WINSTENY  
Associate Producer STANLEY OTOOLE A UNIVERSAL RELEASE TECHNICOLOR® READ THE COBNET BOOK  (C) 1974 BY UNIVERSAL PICTURES INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

**NOW PLAZA 2**  
LOWER REGENT STREET

Programmes daily 2.30 (not Sunday), 4.35,  
6.40, 8.05.  
Late show Friday and Saturday 11.15 p.m.





Mr. Ben-Zion: a romantic.

## Israel's founding father reaps the rewards of terrorism

I first met Mr Menachem Begin in Tel Aviv soon after he had emerged from the underground in 1948. With his thinning hair, spectacles, wet lips and soft hands he looked like an eastern European academic, yet as the leader of the Irgun Zva Leumi, the Jewish terrorist organisation, he was arguably responsible for the birth of Israel. Certainly the Irgun's terrorism advanced the British withdrawal from Palestine.

The Irgun murdered British soldiers and policemen, and hanged two young sergeants. They blew up the King David Hotel, then a British headquarters, and killed 91 people. With the Stern Gang they surrounded the Arab village of Deir Yassin, and massacred more than 200 Arab men, women and children.

Mr Begin subsequently denied the massacre in an article in *The Times*, claiming the Arab dead were the unfortunate casualties of war, but the evidence was overwhelming. Even Mr Arthur Koestler, who admired the Irgun, could not stomach the mass murders of Deir Yassin and the hanging of the sergeants.

Mr Koestler's respect for the Irgun was enhanced by his dislike of Mr Ben-Zion and what he saw as the ghetto heritage of the older generation of Israeli politicians whom he despised, but his view of the Irgun was probably the best intellectual defence for terrorism. He argued that ruthlessness was essential for human progress. The end could justify the means at decisive moments in history, and the Irgun's terrorism was morally justified with the exception of Deir Yassin and the hanging of the British sergeants.

Whether or not he still holds this view is another matter, but Mr Begin has another claim to be regarded as one of Israel's founding fathers. After the achievement of Israel's independence, the Irgun retained its identity and for a few brief weeks was a private army beyond the control of the provisional government and the Hagana. It was potentially dangerous situation, and the confrontation came when the Irgun chartered the *Altalena*, an old tank landing ship, to ferry arms from a French port.

Its hold was filled with enough rifles, machine guns, anti-tank weapons and ammunition to equip a division. About 900 volunteers were also aboard to reinforce the seven Irgun battalions already in the field. Ben-Zion saw the *Altalena* as a direct challenge to his authority, and decided that he could no longer tolerate a private army and an alternative government. Barely ten weeks after the creation of the Jewish state, Jews fought Jews in one of the most amazing battles of the century.

The ship arrived one Sunday evening in June at Kfar Tikva, a little cove north of Tel Aviv, and local settlers helped the volunteers aboard with the unloading throughout the night. But at first light Ben-Zion ordered the ship to be surrounded by Hagana tanks and armour and two Irgun corvettes were patrolling offshore.

Much of the cargo was still aboard when Mr Ben-Zion, the mayor of Nahariya, arrived to

negotiate, but the Hagana fired on the men on the open beach, and the *Altalena* sailed for Tel Aviv. Ben-Zion presumably believed that the Hagana would not open fire again if the ship was unloaded in full view of the largest city in the country.

He also had many supporters in Tel Aviv. Audacious as ever, he had the ship beached in front of the Kaeta Dan Hotel, where members of the United Nations truce mission lived, and where the world's press had gathered. It was the decision of a ruthless and courageous man toughened by years of terrorism, and determined to achieve his objective whatever the cost, but his audacity only made Ben-Zion more ruthless.

The slaughter began soon after dawn when machine guns raked the ship's deck with concentrated fire. Heavy mortars joined in. The firing was matched by mounting hysteria ashore. Irgun supporters pleaded with the troops to stop firing, and some did. Deputations pleaded with Ben-Zion, but he would not be moved, and eventually the ship caught fire.

A white flag was hoisted and the survivors jumped overboard. Many of them were killed or wounded as they swam ashore. A triumphant Ben-Zion gave a broadcast from the ship, and the Hagana set fire to the ship.

About 40 of the Irgun were killed and many wounded. Passions ran high. The new state was threatened with civil war, and the Hagana was still literally at the gates. Ben-Zion submitted, and allowed the Irgun battalions to be mustered into the Hagana. He could not have done otherwise without destroying the state for which he had fought for years in the underground. But the fact that he did submit ensured Israel's survival. He is a true founding father.

Mr Begin always saw the Irgun as a patriotic force which fought a guerrilla war against the British and the Hagana. He compared himself with Mr Kautsky and Archbishop Makarios, and also expected to be friendly with Britain, which he appeared genuinely to admire. He was bitterly disappointed when his visit to London in 1972 opened old wounds.

He was, and probably remains, a romantic. He has softened over the years, and is prepared to compromise with the Arabs although they are unlikely to appreciate it. A colleague who knew him well today questioned whether Mr Begin wants to hold office. He recalled that in an earlier coalition government he had been appointed minister of defence, but he was not a minister without portfolio.

This suggested that he might stand aside this time. I doubt it, but whatever he decides his victory at the polls proves that terrorism does pay. Mr Arafat should be encouraged. When the next Hagana conference is convened Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation might be represented by two old terrorist leaders. It could be disastrous diplomatically, but very interesting.

Louis Heren

Mr Callaghan, it appears, is now attracted to the idea of briefing Westminster journalists in public. So, indeed, are we all, provided we do not get less information about the Government in consequence. I have never met a journalist yet who would not rather have the same piece of information from an attributable source than one which cannot be named. Who would not rather have had (to take a purely metaphorical example designed to offend nobody) Sir Harold Wilson's views on Mr Tony Benn's political operations at certain moments on the record rather than off it? Who would not prefer to have Mr Heath's views about Mrs Thatcher's Shadow Cabinet on the same frank basis?

In an ideal political world, we should all go around saying the absolute truth about everything and for the record. Politics would be like an Oxford group meeting. But in such a world, no doubt, we should be dealing equally to absolute kindness, love and humility as well, which would no doubt take the sting out of our bluntness.

Until that world arrives, however, I am afraid that we shall have to continue relying on a great deal of unattributable news—that is, the free exchange of opinions and assertions between politicians and journalists (not to mention politicians and other politicians) in which the source of the information or opinions is not named in print.

And that, of course, is what the "lobby" is about. To call it a "system" is a misnomer: it is a convention. To suppose that it is a system, or that it is a method, or that it is a fallacy, the lobby is simply the collective noun describing the accredited political correspondents who are entitled to enter the Members' lobby at Westminster and there, or elsewhere, to have informal discussions with Ministers, Opposition spokesmen and MPs to supplement and extend the information that is available on the record.

It is almost entirely the same process as when editors of newspapers at important political moments (and at some not so important) are invited by the Prime Minister of the day to see him, collectively

or individually. The thought is no doubt not entirely absent from the mind on such occasions that when these distinguished journalists hear how the truth really is from the source of sources, they will recognize it in a blinding light that will illuminate all their subsequent writings and editing.

They, in turn, see the process as part of the broader fount of information and knowledge which plays on them and from which, to mix a metaphor, they weave a wiser and wider tapestry of political truth. Which side gets most from such encounters depends. I dare say, on the circumstances and the individuals as in most other happenings of life.

On a more routine basis, that is how the lobby works too. After they have heard the speeches, listened to questions, read, or partly read, the white and green papers, and heard the official statements of what went on at party meetings, the political correspondents try to add a third dimension to what is on the record by informative discussions which take place on the understanding that the source of the information is unnamed. Like the editors and the industrial, diplomatic and defence correspondents is bound by only one essential rule—having written what he believed to be the truth on the basis of the information he has been given, he must protect his sources.

Ah, you may say. That is all very well. But the trouble at Westminster (and elsewhere) is not the unattributable quality of a certain sort of information, but the fact that all lobby correspondents are collectively briefed together on these terms.

There is, for instance, naturally a disposition on the part of the correspondent of the *Daily Z* to use what is said (even if he thinks that the Government's view of the current scene is nonsense) because he knows the *Daily Z* (whose main readers likewise) will use it. And anyway, the Government is the Government and its utterances will count for enough to deserve an audience. Thus the Government is able to put across a general view for which it takes no

responsibility and from which, when the going gets rough, it can retreat.

Yet to dismantle these collective unattributable briefings is difficult. Mr Heath flirted with the idea: Sir Harold's Mr Haines got so cross with the lobby for being disrespectful about what was being said that he stopped seeing them. But what precisely would take their place? Would Mr McCaffrey be prohibited from all speech except on the record? If not, are the lines to No. 10 to be jammed daily by 50 individual correspondents separately ringing up Mr McCaffrey, or whoever may be there, to find out that little bit extra about the Government's thoughts then was felt suitable for utterance in the harsh light of day and (no doubt) the television cameras?

Besides, on-the-record press conferences have their problems, too. The mammoth De Gaulle-style press conferences favoured by Mr Heath are not always pitched in the key that encourages probing for information. They make it too easy for the lobby, once having bowled one awkward question by a particular journalist, to dodge the next one by turning gracefully next time to the actions, in which the *Fiji Herald-Tribune*, whose question may not always assist the sum of relevant knowledge as that is understood within what still passes as the United Kingdom. Still, I have no doubt that a

Ronald Butt

# Lobby briefings: on or off the record the truth will out

The much-maligned briefings of the lobby have, by enabling something with a clear flavour to appear in two places at once, made palpable what might have been uncertain

does enable us to understand more clearly what ministers are really thinking than would be possible under a system of open briefings supplemented by individual non-attributable inquiries (which, I hope, nobody proposes to ban).

My starting point for this assertion is the reputation of those two veterans, if you'll excuse the cliché, political correspondents, Mr Robert Carvel of the *London Evening Standard*, and Mr John Dickinson of the *London Evening News*. The real question we ought to ask about last Thursday is not, perhaps, who said what, or what exact phraseology was used by Mr McCaffrey. The real question is this: is anyone suggesting that Mr Carvel and Mr Dickinson made it up, or that they are getting a little hard of hearing, or can't take down a key phrase when they hear it?

I have known Mr Dickinson and Mr Carvel for more years than I care to think (well, about 10, be precise) and I have not known them to make anything up yet, nor have I detected an urge towards dramatic fiction eclipsing the truth. A large headline or so may occasionally give a certain dramatic magnification to their work. The odd molehill may sometimes be made a little mountainous. (Which of us is guiltless of that?) But when they reported that the Government was saying last Thursday that Sir Peter Ramsbotham was going because his regime was fuddy-duddy or rather snobbish, or some such description, then this to my mind meant that (however fleetingly) someone round about the Government was saying just that.

Who said it I do not know. I haven't asked Messrs Carvel and Dickinson because I am a sensitive spirit without relish for dusty answers. But someone said something that they believed represented a certain attitude of the Government, and I do not myself believe that this was some junior minister in the Department of Social Manners giving his private opinions. We have to look a bit nearer the centre than that.

Nor do we need to know, the precise words which were used and, disputed, there are guarded ways of conveying a

thought which are nevertheless unambiguous. If we accept the Thursday was one which was some kind of official wish to convey, then we must accept that by its conveyance through the lobby system, the cause of truth was served. And by the cause of truth I do not, of course, mean the truth about Sir Peter Ramsbotham (far from it) but the truth about the way in which at least some in the Government were thinking of dismissing press criticism. For nobody supposes that Mr McCaffrey speaks for himself and nobody seems to dispute that he was retelling a view of some sort about the present Washington Embassy which his masters wanted retailed. We should not have understood this if it had been retailed through one paper alone because there were no collective briefings.

There would have been a less. In the last week I have learned quite a lot about Mr Callaghan and Dr Owen and their way of thinking and I should be sorry to have been deprived of that. The much-maligned collective briefing of the lobby system has, by enabling something with a clear flavour to appear in two places at once, made palpable what might have been uncertain.

I am left with this thought. If the briefings were all on the record, would the official mind be as well probed as now? If the unattributable things said by the spokesmen did not appear so generally in different newspapers, but only in one or two, should we recognize them for what they are? There was, says Mr Callaghan, no Government-inspired campaign against Sir Peter. Of course, we accept that. But in this context what is meant by Government and by inspired? What is a campaign? Every man must ponder that for himself.

In the meantime, if what was said off the record can really bear the scrutiny of daylight, why does Mr Callaghan urge release the journalists from their obligation to protect their sources at the moment which we all now know it'd make place, and does he not publish the Government's own version of the words actually used? Then we could judge for ourselves.

## A quiet voice in the forefront of Arab diplomacy

My last meeting with President Assad of Syria had been in August, 1975. Already an established and commanding figure in the Middle East, he was still relatively unknown among world statesmen. This is no longer so, and it has become widely recognised that President Assad is one of the Arab world's acquired a leader of ability.

A long talk with him in Damascus, only a few days after his crucial meeting in Geneva with President Carter, helped me to evaluate him in the qualities which make him formidable.

There is no mistaking the firmness of purpose behind his gentle manner. Moreover, he has the capacity to analyse situations, in which he is personally very much involved, in a remarkably detached manner. It was this capacity for analysis which had enabled him to see from the outset that Dr Kissinger's step-by-step diplomacy was bound to end in failure. As he remarked at the time, giant steps if linked to a time-table could have made the policy a viable one, but tiny steps and no time-table were a formula for maintaining the status quo, not for achieving a lasting peace settlement.

As one would expect, he therefore remains very cautious. The meeting with President Carter had clearly been a notable success and a relationship of mutual respect had been established. President Assad emphasized that this was only a first meeting, they had talked for four hours and had certainly established a basis of mutual trust which should be useful in the future. He felt certain that by the end of their meeting, President Carter was fully



Presidents Assad and Carter: A basis of mutual trust.

aware of the overall Arab position—that there was no hope of a settlement which did not involve an Israeli withdrawal to the 1967 borders and a fair deal for the Palestinians.

President Assad thinks that, although the new American administration should be given time to settle in properly, a diplomatic start must be made this year. This is another opinion which he shares with President Carter and also President Sadat. It would not necessarily mean a full scale meeting in Geneva—too much is at stake to risk failure there

because of insufficient preparation. President Assad feels that Mr Carter fully understands that, if there is no settlement within a reasonable time, there is certain to be another war. He knows no better than anyone else how far President Carter will be able to sell to Congress, still greatly under the influence of the powerful Zionist lobbies, a public opinion in America any new Middle East initiative that he may want to sponsor. His own firm conviction is that it is perfectly possible to obtain a peaceful settlement which would prove acceptable to all

the parties involved. But there is still no sign that they can see of Israeli willingness to contemplate such a settlement, and the results of the elections are not likely to have done anything to alter his opinion. Indeed with Mr Begin's success a new and sinister question mark has arisen about the future. President Assad did not specifically present himself as a spokesman for all the Arabs. After all, Mr Carter had already seen a number of other Arab leaders and will be meeting more.

But he was able to speak against a background of greater consensus among Arab governments than has been the case for some time. He thought that relations with Egypt, for long in the doldrums, were now back on a sound basis; very good with Jordan and greatly improved with the Palestinians after their low ebb during the Lebanese civil war. Syria, Egypt and Saudi Arabia were the natural axis of Arab diplomacy, and he pointed out that Arab leaders continued to meet all the time and consult regularly.

On Lebanon, the President emphasized that partition was unacceptable. He did not think that the creation of small artificial confessional states in the Middle East would be in the interest of anyone. But as far as he was concerned, the security of Lebanon and of Syria was indivisible. Syria, however, had no territorial ambitions in Lebanon whatsoever.

There is one aspect of my talk with President Assad that I found particularly encouraging. It was not just his understanding of the realities of power in the world today that struck me, but the fact that this level-headed spokesman for the Arabs is to be found in Damascus. Syria is a country which should be capable of taking a lead in the Arab world, but far too often since independence its voice has been muted. It should be a benefit for the whole area that this situation has now been radically changed.

Dennis Walters

The author is Conservative MP for Westbury.

## Liberal home from home in Whitehall?

Although the Liberal Party is not directly involved in the affairs (and I use the word advisedly) of the National Liberal Club, David Steel and his Parliamentary colleagues are, not unnaturally, deeply concerned about advice publicity.

First there was George de Chabris (who appears in Whitaker's, by the way, as secretary of the NLC) and his membership drive in Scandinavia where he advertised the illustrious Club as a sort of curative hotel. Then there has been the crisis over management consultants Anthony Dobson Associates, who were sacked by the Club's trustees after three brief weeks.

institution and bringing it back to its former glory.

That motion will almost certainly be defeated, not least because the Dobsons plan would cost an estimated £1m. Where, Liberal MPs and the majority of members of the Club wonder, would Dobson find that sort of money. The possible answers, I am told, less than reassuring.

Accordingly, the management committee of the Club will tonight vote to reject the plan (still top secret) which should "allay the fears of most members".

That remains to be seen; and, judging by the expressions on the faces of Mr Steel and his partners in the great political pact with the Government, having jumped out of the (de Chabris) frying pan into the (Dobson's) fire, a discreet and safe settlement would be most welcome.

The trustees of the Club have promised the Liberal Party security of tenure in the Club house. Will it, many Liberals wonder, be the sort of club house where one would wish to hold tenure? And what, in the light of the latest revelations (not to mention the possible influx of hopeful donors) constitutes real security?

Kite flying, which I have always thought of as a kindly sport, was taken a nasty turn on Hampstead Heath on May 29. A kite festival will include a Japanese style dogfight, with contestants using powdered glass strings and razor blade tails to destroy each other's entries.

## Painful group therapy

Half way through my first week as PHS diarist seemed a good time to find out whether, and why, top people get tension headaches.

A press conference yesterday, at which the results of a national survey were announced, did not enlighten me much. Possibly it was because I am still a unit in search of a group.

Do I, for example, belong to the upper income group mentioned in the survey? If I do, then only 17 per cent of people like me are pain prone. If I do not, and I am a middle group man (the survey describes him as an acting and surviving "person" which does not sound at all like me), then I belong to the 60 per cent group.

If I am on lower income (and the category seems to fit me snugly), I am one of the 24 per cent. I should talk to my accountant to see if he can define my classification, but I fear it would give me a headache.

In the meantime, I suppose I must consider myself lucky not to be a woman. The survey reveals that four times as many women as men are subject to tension headaches. Why more women victims than men? "Impossible to say," we were told. It was probably something to do with hormones. I found my attention wandering, my pen idle.

The interest of female scribes around me visibly perked up when the speaker got on to the subject of women's lib. The crumbling of the sexual barricades had not done much to lessen tension headaches in women, they were told. If anything, "burning of bras had left them even more defenceless and tense." The ambiguity in that statement was not lost on us, and there was an embryo snigger.

Finally, I must tell Man-chester readers that the frequency of tension headaches is apparently higher there than anywhere else in Britain.

The Moscow Conservatory of Music is to open its doors, experimentally, to workers from a local car repair plant whose musical education has been limited thus far to the clang of hammer on steel. New songs, marches and even cantatas should result from this cross-fertilization of talents, says a Moscow newspaper, although what benefit the car men will derive is not stated. Perhaps some witty reader of PHS would like to speculate.

## Geometrically opposed

The committee stage of the Price Commission Bill in the Commons has, apparently, become somewhat bogged down. Perusing the Bill, I soon found out why. Take, for example, clause 6(4)(b). "If the report relates to an increase, a recommendation by the Commission as to whether the price to which the increase or part of it is or without the increase should not be increased during any particular period."

Whether always said this Rothschilds would's last?



Faded out Tory laughter during the proceedings of the committee and pan on to Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection who says (baffled) that the wording of the Bill shows

that the Government's policy in this matter is "absolutely parallel" and "absolutely square". More laughter and collapse of stout Tories.

## Scooped ever so graphically

Today's edition of *The Cambridge Graphic*, a facsimile of the newspaper that appeared exactly 77 years ago, carries the report of the scoop. *The Times* by two days. It is generally thought that we were the first to report the Relief of Mafeking on May 21, 1900.

Our Correspondent did indeed file for the edition of the 21st, having established the facts in the careful way that our foreign reporters always have done. However, two days earlier, the *Graphic* had carried an unconfirmed report from Mafeking. The reprinting of the *Graphic* will, it is hoped, catch the imaginations of visitors to Cambridge in the summer as well as being of educational value. A facsimile will appear each week, price 20p, and will take older readers back to the heady days at the turn of the century when that newspaper was said to be very technically advanced.

## A severe case of Jarndyce

Botswana, whose ingenuity in negotiating contracts with the Beers is an unchallenged fact, also tries very hard to establish a proper legal system. There are snags, however.

Both British case law and Cape Dutch law are used in the courts and often judgments can be out of date because of the long time it can take for British law reports to be distributed. But that is not the worst of it. Many young Botswanans who read law are sent to Edinburgh University with the result, I am told, that Scottish law comes enmeshed with British and Cape Dutch law and legal arguments and submissions. How Dickens (chronicler of Jarndyce and Jarndyce) would have loved it all.

Who (I am rightly asked) painted *Figure by a Window*, the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition portrait of yesterday which I exhibited yesterday? I am glad to restore the name that pressure of space excised. It is Eileen Maclean.





New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## THEY ARE GONE AWAY BACKWARD

*Quis deus vult perdere prius lenevit.* No doubt there is an Arabic equivalent to that, and no doubt it is being quoted today with satisfaction in those Arab circles which believe that peace with Israel is neither possible nor desirable, and that Zionism is an anti-historical movement fated to destroy itself. If the gods wished perdition on the Israelis, they would drive them mad; and what more suicidal folly could they inflict on them than that of choosing leaders committed to holding on at any price to territories which their neighbours will not enounce, in defiance of the one world power on whom they depend for weapons, for financial aid, and for diplomatic support?

Such are the leaders the Israelis have chosen by casting their votes for Likud (for once, the National Religious Party, twelve seats), and for the Shomronim Party led by General Arik Sharon (two seats). Those parties do not together command an overall majority in the new Knesset, but they could probably just achieve one by allying with the two Agudat parties (Orthodox religious groups whose interest is in the internal observance of traditional Jewish law rather than the orders of the state or its relations with the outside world) and by accepting the somewhat limited support of Mr. Shimon Peres, who ran for the Knesset with the sole and avowed purpose of avoiding extradition to face fraud charges in France, and who now finds himself in the extraordinary position of having won two seats after campaigning as a one-man list.

### Strong position

Such a majority would be a narrow one (sixty-two seats out of 120), assuming that Mr. Peres would be willing and constitutionally able to co-opt a Likud supporter into his extra seat—a point that remains to be elucidated—and somewhat lacking in elegance. The demands of the Agudat parties for such things as the banning of post-mortems and of any kind of work on the Sabbath do not fit all that easily with the liberal individualist outlook of the parties composing Likud. But the fact that that majority exists on paper puts Likud in a very strong position, for there is no doubt that the National Religious Party would prefer to return to its previous alliance with the Labour Alliance than with Likud, and the NRP have called for a national coalition of all Zionist parties, but they can negotiate from a position of strength, presenting Likud's leader Mr. Menachem Begin as the natural prime minister of such a coalition, since his is now the largest

group in the Knesset) and refusing any demands from the other parties that they find excessive. The Labour Party, defeated after ruling the state throughout the first twenty-nine years of its history, will no doubt prefer to go into opposition (as several of its leaders have already urged) rather than to bargain from a position of weakness. But there is much more uncertainty about the Democratic Movement for Change, led by Professor Yizrael Yadin, which as a new party has certainly done well to win fifteen seats, and is the main beneficiary of Labour's collapse. Ironically one of its main demands was for the adoption of a different electoral system which would make such breakthroughs by new parties more difficult, but would also give greater influence to local and regional interests and less to national party bureaucracies.

Professor Yadin has made the abandonment of the national list electoral system and agreement to hold new elections in two years the absolute conditions of his joining any government. He would also insist on reforms in the structure of government which Likud would probably not have difficulty accepting: the removal of candidates' names from the electoral lists, the necessity and the electorate has clearly taken the point.

But Professor Yadin's programme also allows for a partial withdrawal from the West Bank in the context of a full peace treaty—something which Mr. Begin and his party have firmly ruled out. Professor Yadin, a man of extensive international contacts and generally moderate reputation, would probably not be keen to participate in a government with a "not-an-inch" policy which he would consider dangerous and unrealistic. His leading lieutenant, Professor Amnon Rubinstein, would find such a policy even less palatable; and though the party does also contain "hawks" who might be tempted to break ranks and support a Begin government, if they did they would also be breaking an undertaking given before the elections to resign their seats if they could not abide by party decisions.

Mr. Begin would certainly like to have Professor Yadin in his government, both in order to secure a more comfortable parliamentary majority and to give the team greater weight and international respectability. But long-term stability is likely to be decided before it is clear whether a deal between them is possible. It may well be six weeks or more before the new government is actually formed.

Mr. Begin's health is a source of further uncertainty. He has lately suffered from heart failure, and some observers doubt whether, after a lifetime

in opposition (broken only by three years as minister without portfolio in 1967-70), he has the taste or the strength for supreme political responsibility. There is no doubt that internationally he would be a liability as prime minister, both because of his terrorist past and because of his simplistic, if sincerely held, views on the key issues of territories and peace. Even within Likud, while his own Herut party supports him, the Liberals would probably take a more flexible line under the right sort of pressure. But Likud has no obvious alternative leader, and given its much greater numerical strength it would hardly be ready to concede the leadership of the government to Professor Yadin.

### Treading warily

For the rest of the world, and most immediately for President Carter, the election result poses very difficult problems. President Carter believes, rightly, that the present dominance of moderate leaders in the key Arab states provides a unique opportunity for peace, but one which, if not exploited, would be unlikely to stay open for very long. He also knows that the terms of peace acceptable to moderate leaders are ones that he would have great difficulty in persuading even a Labour government in Israel to accept. The victory of Likud is, *a fortiori*, a snub to those moderate Arab leaders and liable to endanger their political position in their own countries and in the Arab world at large.

Rightly anxious to avoid a new surge of destructive radicalism in the Arab world, the American administration will have no choice but to continue its efforts to find a peaceful solution in the Middle East. But it is likely to be more cautious than ever about putting pressure on Israel, for fear of provoking Israeli new extremist leaders into even more extreme policies with disastrous results. On the other hand, and for the same reason, the United States' reluctance to help Israel acquire very sophisticated and destructive weapons, already perceptible, is now likely to grow. And if a confrontation with the new Israeli government turns out to be unavoidable, President Carter may now feel that it will at least be easier to explain to American public opinion, including many American Jews,

in the last resort, Israel's new leaders will find themselves confronted by the same hard decisions as their predecessors. In the past their role has been to make those hard decisions harder. From now on they will be confronted with direct responsibility for the consequences of the policies they advocate. The world can only hope that they will act responsibly.

## SKILLS MATTER MOST FOR JOBLESS YOUNG

The baby boom children of the 1960s are struggling through the education system and out into the world, just as the supply of jobs for young people has gone to marked decline. Unemployment among the young has more than doubled since 1972, increasing at almost three times the rate of unemployment in general, according to the Manpower Services Commission's report earlier this year. The young who will come onto the labour market in increasing numbers in the next four years are likely to find matters as bad as they are now, and probably worse. Apart from the distress and disillusion suffered by those who are hush-compelled to start their careers on the wrong foot, this trend involves a growing waste of a human national resource.

Aside from the mysteries of the procreative impulse, the main cause of this state of affairs is Britain's economic predicament. But there are several reasons why school-leavers have suffered especially badly. The approach of which the Manpower Services Commission is one embodiment cannot together escape a share of the blame. The Government has been too inclined to respond to the use in unemployment with creative and palliative measures, which have had some short-term success in preventing people from being left utterly without

work, at some sacrifice to longer-term needs. Something had to be done if the unions were not to become disaffected, part of the cost of being borne by the young unemployed.

Since 1975 it has been made an expensive matter for a company to make workers redundant. The new rules have humanitarian motives, but they naturally made employers reluctant not only to make labour cuts for the sake of productivity or because of a decrease in business, but also to take on new workers, unless they could see a very distinct and long-term need for their services. Meanwhile a variety of projects have been undertaken with the aim of mitigating the effect of the recession on the unemployment figures at almost any cost. Some of them have been of more value than others. In general they cost less than they seem to, because of the saving on unemployment pay. They become increasingly difficult to justify as the problems they combat come to appear as ingrained aspects of Britain's industrial malaise rather than brief emergencies that can be weathered out.

A number of these initiatives have had reference to young people, among them some which have shown clear signs of desperation. The feeblest was perhaps the much-publicized inducement to early retirement so that

the young could step sooner into old men's shoes. The various work creation and work experience programmes have often been marked by a futile ingenuity which does not inspire confidence. It is no service to the young to set them to tasks that are plainly useless. Yet the Government cannot leave such a vulnerable group of workers to bear the brunt of the recession.

The commission does not disguise the scrappy nature of much of what has been done but it seeks a commanding role in what it proposes for the future with only intermittent signs that it fully appreciates how much has gone wrong. It also lays stress on one additional reason why employers are slow to take on young recruits. They think that they are bad material—uninterested and poorly educated. There is an element of prejudice in this time-honoured lament but it indicates the priorities that the commission should have. Many schools today are failing to equip their pupils with the skills that modern industry demands. The worst job shortages exist in unskilled work, and demand in that category is the least likely ever to revive. The money that the commission seeks must justify itself not by the number of idle hands that it keeps occupied but by the value of the skills that it imparts to them.

### Good from rancher game

From Dr W. E. Ormerod.  
Your correspondent, Marcus, in his article of April 22, that the substitution of ranch game for cattle would stop a flood of insecticides and the associated over-grazing which are affecting West Africa so severely, should like to make two comments.

Firstly, the international organizations are at present using insecticides not so much for the eradication of tsetse as of Simulium, the vector of river blindness. Those who have seen this disease, or the BBC's film about it, will realize that the use of insecticides for its control clearly in the interest of the people who are affected is the same cannot be said for the use, also annulled by the international organizations, of insecticides for advertising tsetse, since any increased meat supplies will only benefit townspeople hundreds of miles distant and with a higher standard of living. I oppose the eradication of tsetse because I believe that the insecticides are themselves particu-

larly harmful but because of the increased degradation of land that will result from the consequent increase in the area of unrestricted nomadic over-grazing.

My second point is that while game animals in the wild certainly cause less degradation than cattle, when herded by man game is likely to cause as much over-grazing as cattle.

The major ecological problems of West Africa are not the conservation of wildlife or the use of insecticides. West Africans will rightly identify these as an essentially alien set of priorities. Game animals are a financial asset and their ranching may well form part of its future pattern of agriculture, but in West Africa there has been little game for many years and few people consider it to be important.

Cattle, on the other hand, are a significant part of their culture, and it is their raggedy that drought and over-grazing are wasting the traditional cattle lands. However, cattle-rearing is well established in the moister zones, often with breeds of cattle which, like game, are

resistant to trypanosomiasis. It is the extension of this system of agriculture, which lacks the services consequent of methods used in the more arid zones, that West Africans are likely to see as their highest ecological priority. I am, yours faithfully,  
W. E. ORMEROD,  
Reader in Medical Protozoology,  
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine,  
Keppel Street (Gower Street), WC1.  
April 26.

### Aircraft noise

From Mr G. Campbell-Smith.  
Sir, Mr. Carol Berman, chairman of a New York anti-Concorde pressure group whose photograph appears in today's edition (May 17) must have extraordinary sensitive hearing. With an east wind blowing, there were no aircraft within miles of the GPO tower. Yours faithfully,  
G. CAMPBELL-SMITH,  
20 Fairlawn,  
Putney Hill, SW15.  
May 17.

## Distributors of 'Private Eye'

From the Editor of Private Eye.  
Sir, The anomalies of the Criminal Libel Law are not the only issue demanding discussion following the conclusion of the *Private Eye*/Goldsmith litigation.

During the course of this litigation a far more dangerous precedent was established and its legality confirmed by the House of Lords. I refer to the suing by Sir James Goldsmith of minor distributors of *Private Eye* and his sending of the actions on the distributors agreeing never to sell *Private Eye* again. Happily for us, the distributors who made such an agreement have now been released from their undertakings. But it remains the case that not only was the suing of the distributors held to be perfectly lawful but also the securing of the undertakings.

Many distributors quite understandably took the view that it was simply not worth their while to contest the writs, so it is irrelevant to speculate on what might have been the outcome had the cases been taken to court. The mere institution of proceedings has been enough to cause a distributor to agree to discontinue handling a publication.

Only Lord Denning has in his great wisdom seen fit to condemn what was done and to make it clear that distributors cannot be held liable in any circumstances, except when they have been given warning in advance of publication of a specific libel.

This serious issue must be clarified before others take advantage of the precedent that has been established.

Yours sincerely,  
RICHARD INGRAMS,  
Editor,  
*Private Eye*,  
34 Greek Street, W1.

### Lobby system drawback

From Mr David Dimbleby.  
Sir, One drawback to the Lobby system not mentioned in today's leading article (May 18) is that it encourages sloppy journalism. I have twice been attacked by a Prime Minister through the Lobby. On neither occasion did any member of the Lobby check with me what was said by the Prime Minister's spokesman. The allegations were simply published as though they were facts.

Is this abandonment of elementary journalistic practice? Idleness? Or is it that a diet of stories for which neither reporter nor source can be held responsible (since the meeting at which the formation passes never officially takes place) is so debilitating that, as in the Jay affair, it reduces Lobby correspondents to mere pedlars of title-tattle? Yours faithfully,  
DAVID DIMBLEBY,  
14 Cecil Street,  
Richmond, Surrey.  
May 18.

### Police corruption

From Mrs Raymond Blackburn.  
Sir, May I take this opportunity of pleading on record my certain knowledge of the unearthing of police corruption, particularly in the obscene publications squad, was in no small part due to my husband's brave and lonely legal battle over the past nine years. It was clear to him that illegal rackets were flourishing, he very quickly discovered why they were being allowed to flourish, and on several occasions before the judges came too close for comfort to spelling it out. Now surely, all the lawyers and eminent judges whom he addressed in both his cases concerning the gaming laws and the pornography laws must realize that he was right. This made his task "in the external vigilance of the law," to quote Lord Denning, all the more immense and courageous. I am very proud to have been associated with him in these endeavours.

Yours very sincerely,  
RESSA M. BLACKBURN,  
50 Homefield Road,  
Chiswick, W4.  
May 16.

### Planning for cyclists

From Mr D. R. Widdess.  
Sir, Mr. Hunter calls attention to the "privileged" position of cyclists and the danger many of them cause. Not only to themselves, but other road users. One might add that pedestrians are similarly unqualified, untested and unlicensed, and yet are frequently found endangering themselves and other road users by attempting to cross the public highway. Perhaps it should be established that in future any cyclist or pedestrian venturing on to the open road should be preceded by a motor car waving a red flag.

Yours faithfully,  
D. R. WIDDLESS,  
Newham Cottage,  
Queen's Road,  
Cambridge.  
May 10.

### 'Badger Watch'

From Mr D. F. J. Davies.  
Sir, Your correspondent Mr. Reginald Williams (May 17) has missed the point. What spoiled *Badger Watch* was the same thing that ruined the 1976 Olympics, and obliges me to leave the room whenever my family is watching television sport, the fact that people will not stop talking. Pretending to be an encyclopaedic knowledge of the activity concerned and close acquaintance with all the players, they distract the watcher with superfluous technicalities and even claim to know what people are thinking. Rather than be quiet they will retail trivia of the most numbing kind.

If television had accompanied Beatrice Harrison to that Surrey wood I doubt the nightingale would have got a trill in edgewise. Yours faithfully,  
D. F. J. DAVIES,  
Beches,  
Station Road,  
Staplehurst, Kent.  
May 17.

## The judges and trade union rights

From Mr Nicholas Scott, MP for Kensington and Chelsea (Conservative).

Sir, It comes as a sadness but no surprise to learn that the Leader of the House of Commons, Mr. Michael Foot, is now denouncing the Judiciary before the Union of Post Workers. Previously he has debased the procedure of the House of Commons by proposing successive guillotine measures, threatened the freedom of the press with a closed shop and proposed the dismemberment of the House of Lords.

Is there any worthwhile institution in Britain that this renowned parliamentarian will not hawk, trade or bargain away to curry favour with his political supporters?

Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS SCOTT,  
House of Commons.

From Mr R. W. M. Dias.

Sir, Mr. Michael Foot's recent attack on the Judiciary can only dismay even some of his supporters. One as learned as he in history must surely know that the traditional role of the Judiciary can be seen as siding with the "underdog." Thus, in the seventeenth century especially it came to the rescue of the individual when he was threatened by the over-mighty monarch (executive), just as it has come to the rescue of workers threatened by over-mighty employers (eg. by virtually abolishing the defence of consent to claims for damages by injured workmen, by curtailing the operation of unconscionable terms in contracts of employment and in several other technical ways). Where an act is illegal *per se*, judges have no alternative but to say so, as they did in the recent gross strike by Post Office workers. This is why the legalisation of otherwise illegal industrial action has to come from Parliament.

This has nothing to do with any anti-union attitude. Indeed, the evidence gives no support to such an assertion. For instance, in the *Crofters' Titled Case* in 1942 the House of Lords interpreted the law of conspiracy so as to exclude from its compass combinations in protection of legitimate trade interests. Oliver public does not hear of this case, nor of many others to be found in law reports. Today, it needs a robust pronouncement by not to perceive the threat to individuals from over-mighty unions. The Judiciary, true to its role of siding with the underdog, gives relief to the former where possible within the law. Two cases invariably quoted as evidence of judicial prejudice against unions are both instances of redress being given to individuals driven out of work by their unions (*Benson v. Musicians' Union*; *Rookes v. Barnard*), the one for failing to pay his subscriptions, the other for resigning. These are supposed to be examples of union victimization.

The answer to Mr. Foot's charge is best provided by two authors who, in an article entitled "Industrial Conflict—Judicial Attitudes", investigated the area most likely to arouse judicial prejudice, since it is individuals driven out of work by their unions (*Benson v. Musicians' Union*; *Rookes v. Barnard*), the one for failing to pay his subscriptions, the other for resigning. These are supposed to be examples of union victimization.

Mr. Foot's charge is best provided by two authors who, in an article entitled "Industrial Conflict—Judicial Attitudes", investigated the area most likely to arouse judicial prejudice, since it is individuals driven out of work by their unions (*Benson v. Musicians' Union*; *Rookes v. Barnard*), the one for failing to pay his subscriptions, the other for resigning. These are supposed to be examples of union victimization.

Yours faithfully,  
DENIS YOUNG,  
September Cottage,  
Forgandenny, Perthshire.

### Devolution reaction

From Mr Adam Ferguson.  
Sir, At a stroke of the pen—"The defeat of the Government's guillotine motion on the devolution Bill provoked an understandable outburst of anger and disappointment in Scotland"—it is not surprising that this morning's record in the House of Commons was a knot. May I immediately put it straight?

There were two principal reactions in Scotland that day. One was the enormous relief of the entire community (the chambers of commerce and the Scottish CBI expressed their satisfaction) and of the whole of Scotland (other groups and individuals who believed that an assembly would lead to separation and economic disaster. The second, and perhaps more significant, was the declaration of public sympathy from almost everybody else, from one end of the country to the other.

Newspapers seeking adverse publicity reaction to, or large scale of opinion because of the guillotine's defeat could detect none, and had to make do for copy with the predictable railings of political spokesmen. Not a march, not a demonstration, not a poster raised in protest. Not a tremor attributable to

### Is small sensible?

From Mr Bernard Bresslaw.  
Sir, Fee, fi, fo, fum. Midgits and megaphones may be delighted with Jillian Robertson's guest column in *The Times* of May 11. "When it comes to people, small is sensible," but we separate sensitive giants of the world only feel a shudder down our elongated spines. Ms Robertson is not the first, nor alas will she be the last, to suggest we should all conform to some non-existent norm. However as a solution to the problem of a burgeoning population faced with finite resources, Ms Robertson's ideas should be exposed for the ecological madness they are.

There is no evidence from the natural world of any great degree of uniformity. Is the sensible size for a mountain 4,006 ft (Ben Nevis) or 29,028 ft (Everest)? Is the African bush elephant (11ft) or the African pygmy elephant (7 ft) the real thing? Is a proper Fine the Loblolly averaging 90 ft or the Ponderosa sometimes growing to 200 ft? Which is the correct size for a newspaper, *The Times* with 36 pages or the *Morning Star* with just 6? The answer was given by Montaigne when he said "the most universal quality is diversity". Genetic variation is the antecedent of adaptation and evolution and without many ran-

dom varieties from which to choose, natural selection functions poorly. If the sole determinant of human size is to be the saving of food, then let us feed only female children since women are on average smaller than men. However they tend to live longer than men and on balance will eat in the course of their lifetimes as much as men. Perhaps the answer is to take to our beds and a life of inactivity, thereby decreasing our need for all but the minimum intake of food.

I may not discriminate against Ms Robertson on the grounds of her sex. It seems hardly fair that she should discriminate against me on the grounds of what she chooses to call my "gratuitous" extra height. If I were a whale I should be the object of conservationists everywhere. If I were a large stately woman, petitions would be raised to save me, but because I am a rather large human sapiens (I think) I must fend for myself in the face of such unfair and unworthy attacks.

Giants of the world unite! You have nothing to lose except your height. Sincerely,  
BERNARD BRESSLAW,  
(Height 31 cubits),  
c/o Watford Palace Theatre,  
Clarendon Road,  
Watford.

From Mr Alan Dyer.  
Sir, The proposition of the closed shop and a search apologist for Mr. Gandhi's authoritarian regime whose assault on the individual's liberties has led to the campaign for a Bill of Rights now has the effrontery to pose as a defender of those rights he has so restricted and would erode further.

Is there no limit to Mr. Foot's hypocrisy? Yours sincerely,  
ALAN DYER,  
6 Stanley House,  
103 Marylebone High Street, W1.

From Mr Denis Young.  
Sir, May I draw Mr. Foot's attention to the fate of the late Mr. James Naylor? Mr. Naylor rode into Bristol on a donkey, to the hosannas and palm-branches of his equally hazy disciples. The House of Commons—this was in 1656—were then unencumbered by a House of Lords or an independent Judiciary and they staged an outraged trial of the man on their own premises, in which the same man prosecuted him, relieved him of the burden of defending himself, and convicted him. Among other mutilations they chopped his ears off and, when the scars were nicely forming, decided to crop them even closer. Then he was sent to prison for life. Oliver Cromwell was so shocked that he forthwith reconstructed the House of Lords and seriously considered becoming King of England if only to stop it happening again.

I do not suggest that anything like that is going to be done to any of us today, but I do say that the tyranny of a professional body of judges is a small price to pay for our protection from a parliament that does not know its own limitations. Yours faithfully,  
DENIS YOUNG,  
September Cottage,  
Forgandenny, Perthshire.

certainly to that event appeared on any pollster's graph of party political popularity. Devolution remained at the bottom of the list of popular priorities. Public manifestation of "understandable" disappointment and anger about the Government's failure to have been confined to the instant tantrums thrown that evening by one of the SNP's parliamentary group, and to the frustrated squawks of outraged next morning from the handful of Scottish newspapers and correspondents sympathetic to the party's cause, which died down in a few days for lack of response.

But of course the hard core nationalists were disappointed. The SNP have cherished no other hopes of attaining their ends except through the chosen instrument of an assembly. Mr. MacCormick now tries to persuade that, under the declared wishes of the Scots (what arrogance he has!) are satisfied, his party will otherwise (!) be out to sweep the board, and that none will regret the consequences of their own inactivity. Desperation—seems to indicate that the Conservatives at any rate, now back tracking on legislative devolution, have just about got it right.

I am, Sir, Yours faithfully,  
ADAM FERGUSSON,  
9 Addison Crescent, W14.  
May 17.

dom varieties from which to choose, natural selection functions poorly. If the sole determinant of human size is to be the saving of food, then let us feed only female children since women are on average smaller than men. However they tend to live longer than men and on balance will eat in the course of their lifetimes as much as men. Perhaps the answer is to take to our beds and a life of inactivity, thereby decreasing our need for all but the minimum intake of food.

I may not discriminate against Ms Robertson on the grounds of her sex. It seems hardly fair that she should discriminate against me on the grounds of what she chooses to call my "gratuitous" extra height. If I were a whale I should be the object of conservationists everywhere. If I were a large stately woman, petitions would be raised to save me, but because I am a rather large human sapiens (I think) I must fend for myself in the face of such unfair and unworthy attacks.

Giants of the world unite! You have nothing to lose except your height. Sincerely,  
BERNARD BRESSLAW,  
(Height 31 cubits),  
c/o Watford Palace Theatre,  
Clarendon Road,  
Watford.

## Preserving the British archive

From Captain Stephen Roskill, FBA, RN (ret).

Sir, Having spent much of the last 30 years researching in Government records may I lend my support to the plea put forward by Professor Howard (May 18) and others for a Government Archive Service?

My experience covered chiefly the Cabinet Office, Admiralty and Air Ministry records. The Confidential Library in the first named was well organized, and the staff always most helpful; yet even there the authorized and obviously unintentional destruction of the Cabinet Secretary's "standards files" covering the early months of the war took place.

The Admiralty's Record Office was manned by Civil Servants who were doubtless conscientious men but were plainly not of the highest calibre, and were totally untrained in historical needs or archival administration. To give only one example of its methods, one day I was in the office when "weeding" was actually in progress, and there was a large pile of documents dumped on the floor prior to destruction. I glanced through it and saw that it dealt with Admiralty lands in colonial territories—an interesting if minor aspect of our imperial era. As the fate of the papers was already sealed I pinched one of them, and from it I wrote an article which was published in your paper.

I give some examples of unauthorized destruction of papers I know that on the death of Admiral Sir Dudley Pound (First Sea Lord 1939 to 1943) his personal assistants went through his papers and destroyed some of them without consulting anyone or seeking any authority; and in 1948 an excessively discreet First Sea Lord's secretary destroyed a wartime letter from the Admiralty. Fortunately in that case a copy was preserved in the Prime Minister's Private Office papers (now Premier's Series).

In my experience the Air Historical branch has much the most efficient organization of any of the Service departments and, as its head once said to me, his instructions were to preserve everything of historical interest.

But even within the Historical branch, some records "closed" for more than the statutory 30 years also require careful attention, since they can produce absurd anomalies, such as documents which I have used and actually quoted from now having been placed under such a restriction.

Another aspect of the problem is the lack of inter-departmental co-ordination, which results in duplication of a lot of papers being retained in different PRO series—such as the Cabinet Office and the Service department records. Plainly there is a need to eliminate such a waste of space and to introduce a system of cross-referencing. Only trained archivists could carry out such work.

Where I do not entirely go along with Professor Howard is in his commendation of the American system, though it is vastly superior to our own. Again, making only the naval side, the US Navy's "Classified" (now "Operational") archives were beautifully maintained while in the charge of the Navy Department's Historical branch. But on transfer to the National Archives many of the documents are micro-filmed—doubtless to save space—and one can spend many frustrating hours going through hundreds of them in order to find what one needs.

From the historian's point of view the preservation of originals, or the taking of Xerox copies in the case of fragile documents, is infinitely preferable to microfilming them. Finally, it is plain that none of these remarks are intended to be in any way critical of the efforts made by the PRO in recent times to improve matters. They have tackled the great difficulties produced by the release of thousands of new documents with outstanding energy and skill, and render all of us admirable service. But that does not eliminate either the need to create the service proposed by Professor Howard, or the need to import trained archivists into all departmental record offices, or the need to preserve and to release as soon as possible all historically important papers. Unauthorised destruction should of course be totally prohibited.

Yours faithfully,  
STEPHEN W. ROSKILL,  
Churchill College,  
Cambridge.  
May 14.

### Washington Ambassador

From Colonel R. J. Longfield.  
Sir, In your article supporting Mr. Peter Jav's appointment as our Ambassador in Washington (May 16), indeed in all the correspondence on this subject, there has been one surprising omission. This very brilliant young man is, I understand, a product of the much criticized British public school system, having been educated at Winchester College.

He surely owes a great deal to this education and one wonders why credit is not given where it is so obviously due? Or is it considered that this might tarnish his image? Yours faithfully,  
R. J. LONGFIELD,  
Lower Siltor,  
Gillingham, Dorset.  
May 17.

### Say it with vegetables

From Mr Angus Doulton.  
Sir, I am afraid that Mrs. Mackintosh (May 11), may be frustrated. Some years ago I attempted to do just that by sending a cauliflower from Glasgow to London by a well known inter-flower company. My order was rejected on the grounds that this species, despite its name, was not, in fact, a flower and therefore could not be supplied. Luckily I was able to find another way of "saying it". Yours sincerely,  
ANGUS DOULTON,  
19 Richmond Road,  
Oxford.







ALLAM  
hemistry

For Saving  
Investing and  
House-Purchase

HALIFAX  
BUILDING SOCIETY

## ICI earmarks £140m for Teesside and confirms German expansion plans

Peter Hill, ICI's Teesside Correspondent, reports that the company is earmarking £140m for expansion at its Teesside plant. The company is also confirming its plans for a large expansion of its facilities in Britain and Europe aimed at winning more of the European chemicals market were revealed yesterday.

The company is to spend £40m at its complex at Teesside and confirmed it is negotiating for a 300-acre site at Wilhelmshaven, West Germany.

ICI gave no details of the nature of the expansion at Teesside, but it is expected that there will be a large increase in the production of ethylene oxide, which is used in the production of a wide range of chemicals, including polyethylene, polypropylene, and various other plastics.

ICI also confirmed that it is planning to expand its facilities in Germany, where it has a large plant at Wilhelmshaven. The company is expected to spend £100m on this expansion over the next five years.

ICI's expansion plans are part of a larger strategy to increase its production of ethylene oxide, which is a key raw material for many chemicals. The company is also planning to expand its production of other chemicals, including ammonia, nitric acid, and various other fertilizers.

ICI's expansion plans are expected to create a large number of new jobs in Britain and Germany. The company is also planning to invest in research and development to develop new products and processes.

ICI's expansion plans are part of a larger strategy to increase its production of ethylene oxide, which is a key raw material for many chemicals. The company is also planning to expand its production of other chemicals, including ammonia, nitric acid, and various other fertilizers.

ICI's expansion plans are expected to create a large number of new jobs in Britain and Germany. The company is also planning to invest in research and development to develop new products and processes.

ICI's expansion plans are part of a larger strategy to increase its production of ethylene oxide, which is a key raw material for many chemicals. The company is also planning to expand its production of other chemicals, including ammonia, nitric acid, and various other fertilizers.

ICI's expansion plans are expected to create a large number of new jobs in Britain and Germany. The company is also planning to invest in research and development to develop new products and processes.

## Threat to block part of deal on Cavenham

By Christopher Wilkins

A group of warrant holders is threatening to block a vital part of the proposed deal under which Sir James Goldsmith's Generale Occidentale is to acquire half of the 49 per cent stake in Cavenham it does not already own.

Warrant holders are important to the success of the proposed deal because their approval is required before any new preference shares can be issued. A feature of the GO deal is that shareholders who continue to hold shares in Cavenham after the offer should receive a scrip issue of one new preference share for every three ordinary shares.

The purpose of the preference issue is to raise the effective income per share from 5.3p to 8.6p.

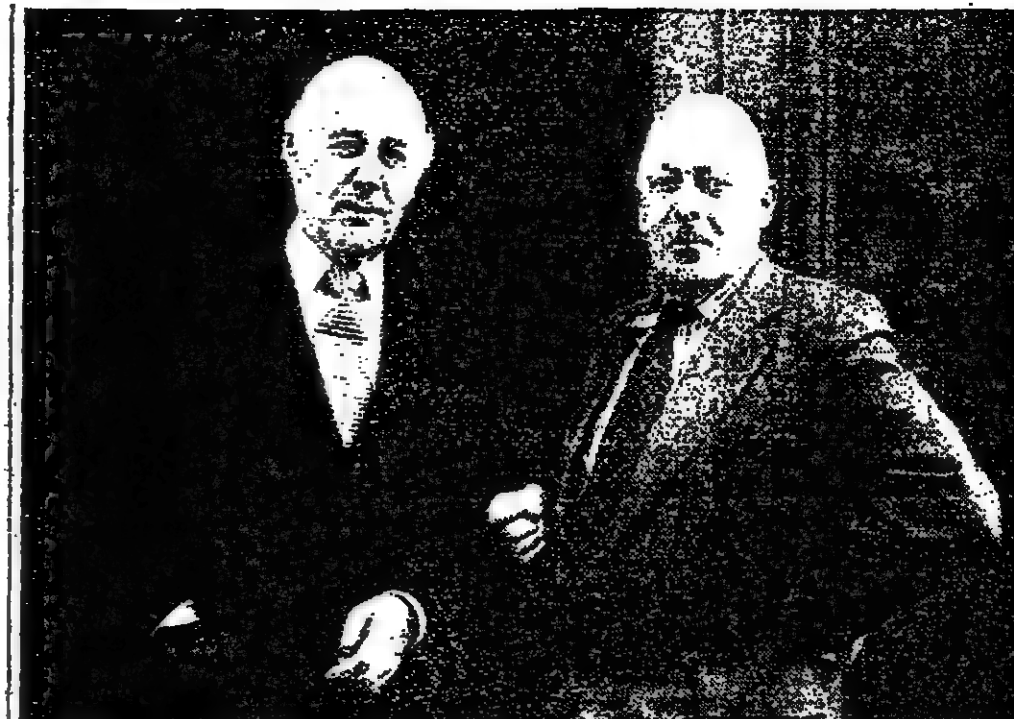
Recently a number of key shareholders in the warrants have been built up, principally among stockholding firms including Brevin, Dolphin, and others. The holders now appear to be acting in concert and are claiming to speak for about 25 per cent of the warrants.

As 75 per cent of the warrant holders are required to approve the preference share issue, this would be a significant obstacle to the deal.

The warrant holders argue that the offer of 42p per share is much too low and are likely to hold out for a higher offer. The sums involved are extremely small, the present bid being worth only some £630,000.

But while the warrant holders seem to be in a strong position, the company's bid is not conditional upon their approval. The proposed preference share issue was only incorporated into the scheme at the insistence of Samuel Montagu, partner to the minority shareholders. If Sir James Goldsmith decided to proceed with the rest of his proposals, the minority shareholders would have to forgo the additional income.

Goldsmith and Hambros, advisers to GO, will argue that the offer for the warrants is generous. As the offer document is already largely drafted it is inconceivable that the company will be revised and a better offer being made for the warrants later on.



CBI chief to retire: Lord Watkinson, president of the Confederation of British Industry since May 1976 (on right of picture), is to give up the appointment at the end of the year, four months early. The decision is taken on medical grounds. He will be succeeded by Mr. Hedley "John" Greenborough (left), deputy chairman and managing director of Shell UK.

The CBI president announced his decision yesterday at the confederation's annual meeting. Mr. John Methven, the CBI's director general, has apparently known of the problem for some weeks. Normally the CBI president would remain for a two-year period, which would have taken Lord Watkinson through to May next year.

Addressing the annual meeting, which had clearly expected to reflect the president for his second year, Lord Watkinson said: "Following a medical check-up which we all have from time to time, I have to try and reduce my commitments somewhat if I am to stay reasonably fit. It seems best for the CBI that I should carry on for the rest of 1977, which I think I am capable of doing if you reflect me this morning, handing over to my successor four months earlier than usual." Lord Watkinson was the main architect with Mr. John Methven of the CBI policy document, "The Road to Recovery".

Business Diary, page 23

## MF team arriving to check books

Caroline Alderson

Members of the MF team are to review Britain's economic position since the beginning of 1976. The team is expected to arrive in London today for consultations on Monday.

Officials in Washington and London have agreed the nature of next week's discussions and pointed out that the Fund is due to visit London in July for the annual consultations, which it has with all main MF countries.

However, the MF team's visit is a preliminary one. The team's visit is a preliminary one. The team's visit is a preliminary one.

## Earnings pass year's target after 8 months of pay bargaining

By David Blake

Economic Correspondent

A sharp increase in earnings of 1.3 per cent during March meant that the Government's target for the growth of earnings during the current round of policy was exceeded with only eight months of the bargaining year gone.

By the end of March average earnings had risen by 7.9 per cent since July 1976.

Government officials concede that the 7 per cent target, originally set as a low, attainable, but say they still believe that during the current year the earnings growth will be about 8 per cent.

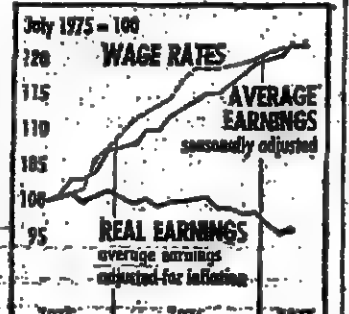
March was a bad month last year, but the very high increase which stood in sharp contrast to the pattern of the previous two months.

There were some settlements which are thought to have pushed up earnings, but bonuses paid out at the end of the fiscal year and an increase in overtime which is thought to have accounted for 1 per cent of the 1.3 per cent increase.

There is still no strong evidence of any widespread evasion from the workings of the current policy, and basic wage rates increased hardly at all in March or in April.

Some of the slippage from the original prediction of the likely upturn under the policy is almost certainly to be explained by the pick-up in overtime (now at 16,000,000 hours a week) caused by the slow but fairly steady rise in industrial production which has been going on in recent months.

But there is clearly some unexplained slippage from the terms of the original policy and there is the possibility that the special circumstances which seem to have operated during March may themselves have been used by employers seeking to deal with workers' discontent over the problem caused by the squeeze on real living standards.



ing to deal with workers' discontent over the problem caused by the squeeze on real living standards.

## Bank signal for static MLR

The Bank of England yesterday signalled to the money markets that it would prefer to see Treasury bill rates remain static with the continuation of minimum lending rate at 8 per cent.

It reacted to the Treasury bill related formula for setting MLR only last Friday, and appears to have decided to suspend the formula again or make a fresh cut in MLR.

Treasury bill rates last night, however, were only marginally above the 7 1/2 per cent level.

## Welcome for lifting of London offices curbs

By John Brennan

A complete about-turn in the Government's thinking on office development within central London has greeted the property industry and received unreserved acceptance from the Location of Offices Bureau.

In the past 14 years, LOB has helped 2,000 firms to move 140,000 office jobs from central London. The Order in Council establishing the bureau charged it to "encourage the decentralization of office employment from congested central London to suitable places elsewhere".

As a result of Tuesday's statement by Mr. Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, the LOB has been given the job of attracting overseas office employers to this country and of attracting office employment to inner urban areas, including London.

The LOB is clearly very sensitive to the fact that after a decade and a half of successfully pushing office workers out of central London, it now has to bring jobs back in. A spokesman commented yesterday: "No one expects us to go out and bring back the jobs we helped to move."

The bureau has long wanted to expand its role outside of the Greater London area, and Mr. Shore's proposals do significantly extend its brief.

Apart from drawing British and overseas office employers into central London, LOB is to be an agent of the Government's plans to get a better distribution of offices throughout the country.

Mr. David Llewellyn, chief executive of English Property Corporation and president of the British Property Federation, said yesterday: "This is a very welcome move in the right direction."

He was encouraged by the Government's change of heart on inner city offices and the relaxation of office controls in the south-east.

In his statement on Tuesday, Mr. Shore announced that the Government's plans to stimulate employment in the construction industry and to reverse the drift of employment from inner London, the exemption limit for office development permits would be raised from 15,000 to 30,000 sq ft.

Offices employing only 200 to 300 people are to be exempt. This is expected to lift controls from 55 per cent of development applications received by Mr. Sydney Mason, chairman of Hammerson Property & Investment Trust, for long an outspoken critic of the Government's policy on property, echoed reactions from many other developers yesterday when he commented: "It looks as though the Labour Party has come to the view that developers are no longer persona non grata."

be an agent of the Government's plans to get a better distribution of offices throughout the country.

Mr. David Llewellyn, chief executive of English Property Corporation and president of the British Property Federation, said yesterday: "This is a very welcome move in the right direction."

He was encouraged by the Government's change of heart on inner city offices and the relaxation of office controls in the south-east.

In his statement on Tuesday, Mr. Shore announced that the Government's plans to stimulate employment in the construction industry and to reverse the drift of employment from inner London, the exemption limit for office development permits would be raised from 15,000 to 30,000 sq ft.

Offices employing only 200 to 300 people are to be exempt. This is expected to lift controls from 55 per cent of development applications received by Mr. Sydney Mason, chairman of Hammerson Property & Investment Trust, for long an outspoken critic of the Government's policy on property, echoed reactions from many other developers yesterday when he commented: "It looks as though the Labour Party has come to the view that developers are no longer persona non grata."

## Hopes of BP gas find in North Sea

By Our Industrial Editor

With its customary caution, British Petroleum was saying little last night amid mounting speculation that a major gas field may have been discovered in the British sector of the North Sea, some 20 miles north west of the big Norwegian Frigg gas reserves.

Oil has also apparently been found in another area, about 12 miles north east of the Piper oil field.

Speculation was stimulated following comments made by Mr. Menuchem Eghbal, the chairman of the National Iranian Oil Co., that in partnership with BP new oil and gas finds had been made in the North Sea. Commercial profitability had yet to be assessed.

BP with Iranian Oil is drilling on Block 329/2, north of the huge Frigg gas field. BP commented yesterday that the drilling "has not yet reached its target horizon, so we can't say what is there."

The partners drilled on this block several years ago with an old-type rig, and encountered high pressure gas. A new rig, Sea Conquest, struck a well earlier this year, and little has been heard since about progress.

Industry observers, however, feel that the significant gas discovery may eventually be confirmed.

In the case of oil, the drilling is on block 15/13, north east of Piper, where a small quantity is said to have been produced but still has to be assessed.

## Mothercare chief sells £21m stake

By Ronald Pullen

Mr. Selim Zilkha, founder and chairman of the successful maternity and children's wear group Mothercare, has again substantially reduced his own and his family's interest in the company.

In a large scale placing yesterday, stockbrokers L. Messel sold eight million Mothercare shares, or 23 per cent of the total equity, for £21.6m.

The placing was carried out at 270p, a discount of 8 per cent on the overnight price; but despite the scale of the operation it is likely to limit institutional interest in the shares for some time, Mothercare dropped only 4p to 290p yesterday.

The disposal reduces the Zilkha family interest in Mothercare from 48 per cent to 23 per cent. Mr. Selim Zilkha has cut his holding from 9.9 million to 4.7 million, fellow director Mr. Ezra Zilkha has reduced his from 2.75 million to 1.3 million, while the family trusts have slimmed their holdings down by 2.3 million.

A spokesman for Mothercare said that Mr. Selim Zilkha's decision to sell was taken "to diversify the financial interests of his family", but he declined to say what he planned to do with the proceeds.

The spokesman added that the sale of such a substantial holding in no way "represented any weakening of the company" and that in any case Mr. Zilkha and his family still held more than 7 million shares worth more than £20m.

Nevertheless, the move is bound to create further speculation in the City, coming less than two years after earlier heavy share sales by the Zilkha interests.

In February 1975 their stake was cut by 4.8 million shares, worth at the time £7.9m, and the timing of the sale a few weeks before the end of the group's financial year created considerable disquiet.

Later that year the interest was reduced by a further 2.2 million shares, reducing the Zilkha interests from 57 to 48 per cent.

At the time of the last sale Mr. Zilkha commented that he did not plan to make further sales in the foreseeable future. The spokesman for Mothercare added yesterday that "there are no further planned sales at the moment."

News of the sale met an icy reception from the group's financial advisers, Hambros Bank, who commented that they were not made aware of Mr. Zilkha's plans in advance.

## How the markets moved

The Times index: 190.03 +2.82  
The FT index: 477.4 +9.2

## On other pages

Business appointments  
Appointments vacant 12, 29  
Wall Street 25  
Rank Base Rates Table 25  
Announcements:  
Ellis & Goldstein 21  
Higgs & Higgs 20  
John Mowlem 19

Owen Owen 20  
Sun Alliance 19  
Taylor Woodrow 20  
Winn Brothers 21  
Winn Industries 21  
Interim statements:  
Northern American Trust 21  
Rank Hovis MacDougall 22

F. W. Woolworth 24  
Prospectus: 20  
Midland International 20  
Redemption notices:  
Morgan Guaranty 21  
Compagnia Anonima 20

## THE POUND

Bank	Bank
Australia 5	1.61
Austria 5	1.56
Belgium 5	36.25
Canada 5	61.25
Denmark 5	1.79
Finland 5	10.64
France 5	7.20
Germany 5	8.72
Greece 5	4.22
Hong Kong 5	64.75
Italy 5	7.90
Japan 5	154.00
Netherlands 5	4.38
Norway 5	9.25
Portugal 5	67.75
S. Africa 5	2.94
Spain 5	121.50
Sweden 5	7.75
Switzerland 5	4.28
U.S. 5	1.76
Yugoslavia 5	33.75

## Summary of Results

Year ended 31st December	1976	1975
Turnover	£120,231	£124,650
Profit before tax	4,251	2,538
Tax	2,264	3,245
Realised profits for the year	1,987	675
Earnings per share	22.97p	14.67p
Dividend (including tax credit)	7.50p	6.52p

## SUN ALLIANCE & LONDON INSURANCE GROUP

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Sun Alliance and London Insurance Limited was held yesterday at the Head Office of the Company in Bartholomew Lane, London, E.C.2.

Lord Aldington, the Chairman, presided and reported that the present estimate of the position at the end of the first quarter of 1977 was encouraging. Even after making a provision for further Subsidised claims it was estimated that the Home Underwriting account showed a material profit. Overseas there was also some improvement in underwriting results. The margin account for 1975 seemed likely to be better than 1974. Investment income was nicely up compared with a year ago, only a small amount of the increase being due to exchange rates.

In the case of this Group the publication of quarterly figures would be more likely to mislead than to indicate real trends but he was pleased to be able to report a return to an overall underwriting profit.

A Vote of Thanks to the Directors and Staff was proposed by Mr. William M. Rees and seconded by Mr. I. H. F. Findlay. The Chairman and Mr. J. A. C. Greenwood, Chief General Manager, responded.

## CBI council backs new pay bargaining plan

By Malcolm Brown

The grand council of Confederation of British Industry yesterday approved a document proposing a radical transformation of the pay bargaining system.

A key proposal in the paper, details of which will be published early next month, is the telescoping of the annual pay round into a period of about three months.

Lord Watkinson, president of the CBI, and Mr. John Methven, director-general, were at pains yesterday to stress that the paper was not a blueprint but a discussion document.

A draft of the document, published last week by The Times, proposed the setting-up of a new national body which each year in the months before the Budget would try to reach a view on the prevailing economic situation and its practical implications for industry and pay bargaining. The pay round would then take place in the months after the Budget.

Since last draft was completed there have been a number of amendments, including several alternative timetables. One alternative questioned yesterday by Lord Watkinson would start the pay round in the autumn.

BIM proposals, page 21  
Future of pay bargaining, page 23

## Vintage toy discovery could fetch £500,000

Dunbee-Combes-Marx, Britain's and Europe's largest toy group, believes it has stumbled on a new realisable asset—two collections totalling some 12,000 vintage toys.

A large proportion were found after DCM took over Louis Marx, the leading United States manufacturer. They were in a locked, forgotten store.

The toys, some dating back to 1912 but most from the period 1935 to 1960, could be worth well over £500,000 according to Mr. Richard Beecham, DCM's chairman.

To the United States find have been added nearly 1,000 toys from a collection held by Schuco, the West German toy maker which DCM has also bought. Both Marx and Schuco had collected examples of other manufacturers' products as well as their own.

Among the Marx collection, found when Mr. Beecham investigated a Pennsylvania store-room neglected for nearly 20 years, are many toys popular in the 1930s. They include clock-work trains, electric vehicles and wind-up figures in tin, including representations of Charlie Chaplin, Disney characters and Charlie McCarthy.

Schuco's is to auction the toys, starting with an offering of nearly 400 in Los Angeles next Sunday. A New York auction will follow on June 8 with others in London on June 15. Others in West Germany, Switzerland and Japan are likely to follow.

Mr. Beecham said: "It is probably the first time that such a complete collection of manufacturers' toys has gone to auction. Mr. Beecham, backed by Sotheby's expectations, believes many individual items will fetch more than £100."

"We have yet to see what the market values really are. There could be a lot of people with this sort of thing tucked away in their attics who could be surprised by the value."

He described the likely profit from the toy collection as an unexpected bonus from DCM's two company purchases. In April last year DCM paid \$13m (about £8.8m) to Quaker Oats for the toy interests of the Louis Marx group in north America and Hongkong. About \$5m in assets have already been sold and a \$16m loss turned into a small profit.

Turnover this year is being budgeted at \$70m compared with \$50m last year. Mr. Beecham is also looking to turn round the fortunes of Schuco which he brought from the liquidator at the end of last year.

Mr. Beecham will not sell all the toys in the collections. DCM is to start an exhibition of its own.

While he faulted the old Louis Marx management for collecting and then forgetting such a museum of toys, he admitted that in some DCM establishments in Britain there could be other vintage assets.

"I know there are several thousand at Swansea, for instance," he said.

Derek Harris

## Mowlem International Construction Group

Chairman Sir Edgar Beck CBE reports...

■ Group profits up 83%.

■ Maximum permitted dividend recommended. This increased dividend is covered 4.7 times, 1 for a Scrip Issue proposed.

■ The U.K. Building Company has continued to trade at a satisfactory level of turnover and profits while the Civil Engineering Company has achieved a considerable increase in turnover with good profit margins.

■ Overseas a number of contracts have been successfully completed. In the Middle East a joint company has been formed to undertake work in Abu Dhabi and several contracts have already been obtained. Our associate company, Barclay-Mowlem, had another successful year in Australia.

■ During 1976 we completed the acquisition of Duke & Ockenden, manufacturers of drilling equipment for water wells and the mining industry. Since the end of the year we have also acquired the assets of Ernest Ireland (Contractors) Limited.

■ Our order book remains satisfactory at home and overseas, where we expect to increase our turnover in the current year. Barring unforeseen circumstances I look forward to another good year.

Summary of Results  
Year ended 31st December 1976 1975  
£'000 £'000  
Turnover 120,231 124,650  
Profit before tax 4,251 2,538  
Tax 2,264 3,245  
Realised profits for the year 1,987 675  
Earnings per share 22.97p 14.67p  
Dividend (including tax credit) 7.50p 6.52p

John Mowlem and Company Limited, Westgate House, Felling Road, Bradford, Middlesex TW8 0QZ.



## NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

To the Holders of

Compañía Anónima Nacional  
Teléfonos de Venezuela

8 1/4% Guaranteed Sinking Fund Debentures Due 1987

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Fiscal Agency Agreement dated as of December 15, 1972 providing for the above Debentures, \$350,000 principal amount of said Debentures bearing the following serial numbers have been selected for redemption on June 15, 1977, through operation of the Sinking Fund, at the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest thereon to said date:

## DEBENTURES OF \$1,000 EACH

36	43	54	141	236	454	520	615	691	736	814	828	833	901	927	1044	1168	1191	1254	1419
135	142	149	156	163	170	177	184	191	198	205	212	219	226	233	240	247	254	261	268
277	187	304	303	329	333	339	343	352	357	361	367	372	378	384	391	398	405	412	419
522	184	184	182	191	331	333	338	348	352	358	363	368	374	380	386	392	398	404	410
272	187	304	312	319	331	333	338	348	352	358	363	368	374	380	386	392	398	404	410
464	208	321	329	333	339	343	352	357	361	367	372	378	384	391	398	405	412	419	426
464	208	321	329	333	339	343	352	357	361	367	372	378	384	391	398	405	412	419	426
464	208	321	329	333	339	343	352	357	361	367	372	378	384	391	398	405	412	419	426
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
643	220	380	478	554	638	700	768	828	874	911	921	931	951	1058	1189	1269	1309	1357	1419
6																			



## BR raises hotel profits to £850,000 but catering down slightly

Patrick Madell, managing director of British Rail, said yesterday that the 28 hotels in the group had made a profit of £850,000 in 1976, a rise of 10 per cent on the £770,000 of 1975. The catering division, however, made a profit of £245,000, a fall of 10 per cent on the £270,000 of 1975. Mr Madell said that the hotels had been hit by the drop in passenger volume and the loss of income from the catering division. He said that the hotels had been hit by the drop in passenger volume and the loss of income from the catering division. He said that the hotels had been hit by the drop in passenger volume and the loss of income from the catering division.

## Warning on Burton redundancy scheme

By Ronald Kershaw  
There was a danger that the Burton group was overreacting to market conditions, said Mr Alec Smith, assistant general secretary of the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers, and that the "cure" they were prescribing—1,400 redundancies—might kill the patient. This conclusion was reached as trade union leaders were halfway through studying a mass of information made available by the company on efficiency levels, sources of supply and projections for the rest of the year.

## Auditors could 'police' productivity pay schemes, BIM says

By Malcolm Brown  
Management leaders yesterday told Mr Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, that company auditors could be used to police self-financing productivity schemes, if these could be introduced in the next stage of pay policy to give a measure of flexibility. A three-man delegation from the British Institute of Management, led by Sir Derek Ezra, BIM council chairman, saw Mr Booth to discuss the pay issue. The BIM representatives made it clear that they saw the need for a third round of pay policy, but insisted that it was to work it would need to leave room for differentials payments and incentives.



Sir Derek Ezra, BIM council chairman: "very useful"

## Ellis & Goldstein (Holdings) Limited

1977 RESULTS		
Year to 31 January	1977	1976
Turnover	£200	£200
Profit before taxation	28,545	28,765
Taxation	926	2,130
Total ordinary dividend	516	1,147
Earnings per stock unit	1.705p	1.55p
	1.8p	4.3p

### Points from the statement by the chairman, Mr David Cannon

Turnover remained practically the same as last year because the decline in the home market was compensated for by increased exports. Lower sales of coats and suits were replaced by growth in the lighter, less tailored articles. There was substantial improvement in retail sales abroad. This increase, particularly in Australia, Canada and Sweden, is gratifying. The balance sheet is strong and again shows the benefit arising from stock appreciation relief and our available cash resources are considered adequate for foreseeable needs. In the last quarter, we began work on the necessary factory extension at North Shields. We are also continuing the replacement of knitting machinery at Leicester. For the immediate future, the opportunity is being taken to accommodate changes in demand. While the present sales of spring merchandise are satisfactory and initial indications of autumn orders are good, these do not provide a sufficiently secure foundation upon which to forecast the outcome of next year. After almost fifty years in the business, I shall retire at the end of June and be succeeded by William Goldstein. I would like to add my personal appreciation to our staff for their work this year, also to them and their predecessors for the support they have given me for so many years.



Eastex Dereta Dumarsel  
Copies of the report and accounts are available from The Secretary PO Box No 5 Runcell Road Northolt Middlesex UB8 5QT

## Hitachi would like British parts in TV plant

It is claimed that the Japanese television manufacturer is planning to establish a factory in the North of England. The factory would produce television sets for the British market. The factory would produce television sets for the British market. The factory would produce television sets for the British market.

## GEC gains extra £6.7m Bolivia microwave deal

GEC Telecommunications, which two months ago completed work on the world's highest microwave-radio telecommunications system, in the Bolivian High Andes, has now won a £6.7m. turnkey contract to expand it. GEC said the contract would make an important addition to the development of telecommunications in South and Central America, where the company has installed microwave-radio equipped national trunk networks for Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guyana and Peru. These systems, together with international connections, represent a total radio-channel length in Latin America alone of 18,650 miles.

## Threat to Jaguar speed up

Shop stewards representing more than 2,000 Jaguar employees in Coventry yesterday said that unless they get a pay rise they will not cooperate in stepping up production. The planned increase in output could mean about 700 new jobs. The policy of non-cooperation was agreed by the joint shop stewards' committee at the Jaguar engine and component plant at Kidford, which supplies the main Jaguar plant. A committee spokesman said they had merely been told of the management plan to boost production. They were now telling the management that they were not prepared to take part in any increase planned beyond the 700 vehicles a week now being turned out. The spokesman added that the Levaland management instead of simply announcing they wanted to increase production should also consider introducing talks about pay increases for those involved.

## 300m Forth oil plan has 'hazards'

The marine terminal at Brack Bay, in the river Forth, for proposed 300m Shell developments at Mossburn, Fifeshire, will be the world's largest oil terminal. It is claimed in a report by the Joint Forth Development Committee, which was set up by the Forth Development Committee, that the terminal would have a number of hazards. The terminal would have a number of hazards. The terminal would have a number of hazards.

## "Another not unsatisfactory year for Taylor Woodrow."



The 42nd Annual General Meeting of Taylor Woodrow Limited will be held in London on Friday 10th June. Mr. R. G. Puttick reports: It is with very great pleasure I record that our team has been honoured by receiving its third Queen's Award to Industry. It has been conferred upon Taylor Woodrow International Limited for the second time, in recognition of outstanding export achievement. Again I am pleased to report that our operations at home and overseas have produced a not unsatisfactory profit and thus achieved record results for our Group for the sixteenth consecutive year. This has been sustained by our diversification and world-wide activities and not least by the unstinting efforts of our team members everywhere.

**Accounts & Dividends**  
The turnover of the Group in 1976, including associated companies, was £413 million compared with £330 million in 1975—an increase of 25%. Profits before taxation were £20,997,000, an increase of 42% over the previous year. After deduction of taxation and minority interests the balance remaining was £9,136,000 which, with the addition of extraordinary items of £2,841,000, gave a profit of £11,977,000 available to Taylor Woodrow Limited. This is an increase of 47% compared with the amount of £8,150,000 available in 1975.

The Board have recommended a final dividend of 5.0p per share which, together with the interim dividend, makes a total of 6.8p per share for the year which was the rate forecast at the time of the rights issue in April 1976. After addition of imputed tax credit at 35%, this equals 9.085p per share, compared with 7.7560p per share paid in respect of 1975.

Despite substantial capital expenditure of £23 million in the year, a major part of which was in the UK, we finished the year with liquid funds of £32 million, an improvement of £12 million over the previous year. It is important to realise that in this industry, the size, complexity and duration of many contracts are such that the results of the Group should be judged over a period of years and not by taking a single year in isolation.

**Inflation Accounting**  
Considerable controversy continues to surround the question of inflation accounting, following the publication by the accountancy bodies last November of a draft standard based on current cost accounting. Whilst agreeing that recognition of the effects of inflation on profits is of considerable importance, the proposals as they stand are far too complex and their operation could lead to an intolerable burden on management. Research into the subject, so far as it affects the Taylor Woodrow Group, is continuing but until

a firm standard has been established your board feel it would be inappropriate to publish any approximate adjustments. **Generally** The construction industry in the UK has frequently been used as an economic regulator. In times of boom the industry has been required to meet excessive demands and in times of recession its work-load has often been abruptly curtailed by cut-backs in public expenditure. The construction industry in this country is at present undergoing one of the worst and most prolonged recessions in its history. While we recognised the need to cut public expenditure (and as an industry we do not expect to escape unscathed) the cuts should be made where the expenditure has so dramatically increased in the recent past, i.e. in unproductive bureaucracy and extravagancies in social services that our country cannot afford rather than cuts in capital projects. The longer the industry is allowed to run down, the greater will be the problem in getting a building programme going again when the present recession ends. Our expansion overseas and diversification into specialist operations are now standing us in good stead and made a substantial contribution to our results in 1976. In evidence submitted to the Bullock Committee last year, your board opposed the proposal for trade union directors and legislation to govern employee participation. Our evidence may be briefly summarised to the effect that trade union directors would bring argument, contention and confrontation into the board rooms. The polarization of views could result in deadlock situations which would be disastrous in view of the need for a company to make rapid decisions if opportunities for business are not to be missed. The effective working of the boards would be frustrated. Furthermore, in view of the diverse nature of industry no one system of participation should be imposed and each company should be allowed to develop employee participation in accordance with the needs and requirements of that company. In Taylor Woodrow we are proud of the fact that 98% of the directors in the Group were promoted from within and are worker directors. The report of the Committee was issued in January, 1977 and has been widely publicised since. If the majority report is implemented by legislation then your board feel that this will result in nothing less than the end of private enterprise in this country. We shall therefore continue to oppose vigorously the recommendations of the Bullock Committee on the grounds that they are against the interests of you, our shareholders, of our team, of trade unionists and of the whole nation.

R. G. PUTTICK  
Chairman

## Winn Industries Limited

RECORD PROFITS  
EXCELLENT GROWTH PROSPECTS

Chairman Cyril Kyme reports a record profit for 1976. A policy of concentration of investment in recognised growth areas, export sales drives and control on overheads gives excellent prospects for the future.

	1976	1975
Turnover	18,621	17,478
Profit before Tax	1,137	876
Profit after Tax	497	454
Dividend	2.5825p	2.275p
Earnings per share	4.7p	4.8p

Copies of report and accounts are obtainable from: The Secretary, 79 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 0EQ.

## Oil companies invest more in chemicals

By Peter Hill, Industrial Correspondent  
Major oil companies are expected to become much more closely involved in the chemicals industry over the next few years, it was forecast yesterday by Mr. Bill Thomson, chairman of Shell Chemicals United Kingdom. He told a symposium in London that it was clear that the oil companies were already devoting a larger proportion of their capital expenditure to chemical industry investment. Most companies, he said, were not stopping with the production of the basic lower olefins (ethylene and butadiene) and aromatic products, but were increasingly moving further into "downstream" product areas. Mr. Thomson said that the oil companies were looking to investment in petrochemicals as a means of enhancing the use and value of crude oil. The reason for increased interest in chemicals was that the oil companies now had some advantage over the traditional chemical companies in the production of basic petrochemicals because of access to a variety of feedstocks.

## WAGES

The following are the index numbers for basic rates of wages for all manual workers in all industries and services, and for average earnings of all employees in all industries and services covered by the monthly earnings inquiry released by the Department of Employment:

	(1) rate 31 July 1976 (100)	(2) rate 31 July 1977 (100)	(3) % change annual rate
1976			
April	210.1	255.0	11.2
May	211.7	259.5	15.3
June	216.8	261.2	11.1
July	219.0	263.1	13.2
Aug	219.1	267.2	12.2
Sept	219.2	268.1	12.0
Oct	219.5	268.0	8.0
Nov	220.7	272.2	7.7
Dec	221.5	277.1	17.8
1977			
Jan	223.6	278.1	14.2
Feb	224.8	278.7	14.3
March	225.2	283.5	14.3
April	225.3	n/a	n/a

## THE NORTHERN AMERICAN TRUST COMPANY LTD.

INTERIM STATEMENT (Unaudited) for the six months ended May 2 1977

	1977	1976
Gross Revenue	1,089,493	953,581
Interest	335,740	291,009
Expenses	46,436	38,176
Taxation	261,176	228,415
	445,151	395,581

In order to reduce the disparity between the interim and final payments an increased interim dividend of 1p on ordinary shares (against 0.7p) has been declared payable on 1st July, 1977, absorbing together with the half-yearly reference dividend paid on 30th April, 1977, a total of 331.56p.

Valuation of Net Assets including full dollar premium

	1977	1976
May 2 1977	£47,997,180	£45,500,000
November 1 1976	£41,822,627	£41,822,627
May 1 1976	£45,632,654	£45,632,654

Joint Managers  
A. K. Aitkenhead, W. D. Marr

revised provisional

FOR FREEDOM

The Teamworkers

Taylor Woodrow

The world-wide team of engineers, constructors and developers

If you would like to receive a copy of the 1976 Report and Accounts, please send in this coupon, with your name and address to: The Company Secretary, Taylor Woodrow Limited, 10 Park Street, London, W1Y 4DD.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_



## EEC steel output continues to decline

By Peter Hill  
Industrial Correspondent

European steelmakers are still languishing in the depths of a recession which has dogged the industry for almost two years, and which has prompted anti-crisis measures to be taken by the EEC Commission.

Largest production indicators published by the Commission showed that in the first four months of this year amounted to 42.6 million tonnes, representing a 3 per cent fall on the level achieved in the corresponding period of last year. Output in April fell by 12.3 per cent to 10.14 million tonnes compared with the previous month, and was 9 per cent lower than in the corresponding month of 1976.

The Commission noted that steel production in the early part of last year had increased steadily, reaching a peak for the year of 12.06 million tonnes in May, but the upward trend ended towards the end of July last year.

Production in all EEC steel-making countries fell back during April, said the Commission, with Belgian steelmakers suffering the sharpest decline in output compared with the previous month, with a fall of 16 per cent. Output of the West German industry fell by 14.3 per cent, the United Kingdom by 11.5 per cent, while the French recorded a 13 per cent fall and Italy a drop of 8.2 per cent.

The West German steel industry reported yesterday that the inflow of orders of rolled steel products fell to 1.37 million tonnes during April compared with 2.18 million tonnes in March, and orders exceeded deliveries by the industry.

## New move on GEC-Parsons merger talks

By Our Industrial Editor

Mr Leslie Murphy, deputy chairman of the National Enterprise Board, is making renewed efforts to bring together GEC and Parsons to form a new turbo-generator company which will call for considerable negotiating skill by the NEB.

Meanwhile, GEC announced yesterday that it has been short-listed to tender for a major Australian power station order, to be placed in October, for two 500 MW sets worth £25m, with an option to bid for a further two sets in the early 1980s.

Letters, column 6

## BAC's final annual report before state takeover shows profits surge

By Arthur Reed  
Air Correspondent

British Aircraft Corporation (BAC) Ltd. yesterday announced record sales, exports, profits and earnings per share in its last annual report before nationalization.

In a note with the accounts, it cast doubt on the wisdom of the Government's decision to put the aircraft industry into public ownership.

BAC recalled that the aerospace industry was referred to as a prime candidate for nationalization in Labour's programme for 1973, and the concept was promoted by a joint working party for the Labour Party, the TUC and the Conservative Party.

The report also noted that the industry was in a state of recession in July, 1974, approved by the national executive of the Labour Party.

Then and since no evidence had been offered to show why and how the aerospace industry's operations would be improved for its own and the national good.

"Those responsible in Parliament for bringing about this change in ownership for doctrinaire political reasons will have created additional and unnecessary burdens for the management of the recently established British Aerospace."

Burdens which can only be successfully borne by professional managers with integrity and resourcefulness of the highest order, it was to be hoped they would be able to master these new problems and maintain or even better the progress made under private ownership.

In the annual report, BAC recorded total sales of £383m, compared with £307m for 1975. Trading profit was £33m (£26m) and group profit before taxation £29m (£20m). Group profit after taxation and excluding extraordinary items was £19m (£14m) with earnings per share 64p (47.2p).

New orders received in 1976 amounted to £664m, leaving orders in hand at the end of the year at £1,031m, compared with £850m at the end of 1975. More than 75 per cent of the orders were for export, mainly for military products and support services.

The trend of energy prices would be upwards. Wasteful habits tied to cheap energy no longer made sense, he said.

Dr Cunningham said the Government could not take people's energy decisions for them, but it could get the economic signals working in the right direction and allow energy prices to reflect the true costs of production.

"We have maintained from the beginning that the energy manager must have access to, or better still, be part of, the management. He must have the commitment of the senior decision-makers in the company."

Dr Cunningham said that for long-term investments a future view of energy prices was essential.

He said: "All I can say is that price trends will be upwards."

## Economic fuel pricing will aid conservation

By Ronald Kershaw

Dr John Cunningham, Under-Secretary of State for Energy, on a two-day tour of Yorkshire and Humberside, told energy managers that economic fuel pricing would help conservation and ensure the highest energy efficiency.

The trend of energy prices would be upwards. Wasteful habits tied to cheap energy no longer made sense, he said.

Dr Cunningham said the Government could not take people's energy decisions for them, but it could get the economic signals working in the right direction and allow energy prices to reflect the true costs of production.

"We have maintained from the beginning that the energy manager must have access to, or better still, be part of, the management. He must have the commitment of the senior decision-makers in the company."

Dr Cunningham said that for long-term investments a future view of energy prices was essential.

He said: "All I can say is that price trends will be upwards."



Dr Cunningham: setting economic signals.

"With Britain only three years away from net energy self-sufficiency our problems of energy supply and energy use in the immediate future are economic problems."

"We shall have plenty of energy for a limited time, but it will be expensive," he said.

"Oil from the North Sea is very profitable but also very expensive to produce, so we won't be getting it cheaply. The price will reflect the cost."

## Standstill at Chloride plants costs £1.5m

By R. W. Shakespeare

The strike and sit-in by 5,000 workers who are occupying two big factories belonging to Chloride, the international manufacturing organization, is costing the company lost production of £1.5m a week in Britain.

Both factories, at Clifton Junction, Swinton, near Manchester, and Dagenham, Essex, have been at a standstill since Monday morning with senior management "locked out" of both plants.

The dispute centres largely on the rejection by five unions—namely the Transport and General Workers Union to which the majority of the Chloride workers belong—of a productivity deal.

This would enable the workers to earn a £4 a week bonus in addition to the 5 per cent wage increase they have received under phase two of the Government's incomes strategy.

However, shop floor representatives claim that other issues, apart from productivity, are involved in their grievances, including pensions, working arrangements and the import of foreign-made batteries.

The company claims that with average wages running at £76 a week it has been paying for productivity that has not been delivered, and it cannot afford to go on doing so. It says that production in the British plants must be brought into line with its manufacturing centres overseas.

With entrance to the big factory at Clifton Junction barred to them by the 3,500 workers who are staging a sit-in, a team of 25 senior Chloride executives have set up a temporary headquarters in a hotel at Bolton to deal with customer enquiries.

Mr Peter Berry, manufacturing director for Chloride, said: "There have been no approaches or developments towards a solution of the problem, but we are prepared to talk to union representatives."

"We have made it clear that we are keen to resolve the dispute as soon as possible, but we are insistent that real productivity improvement is of fundamental importance."

Mr Thomas says that C. A. Parsons produce "the most efficient turbo-generators in service with the GECB". This is irrelevant, the turbine generators to which he refers are of a type no longer ordered by the GECB. Both GEC and Parsons have introduced more advanced designs which are currently being supplied and commissioned. As for his claim that Parsons have manufactured "the highest rated nuclear turbo-generators in the world", GEC is among customers who have manufactured higher rated machines than Parsons.

There was considerable surprise in our offices this morning when we read that our technology was "largely American based". In fact we are proud that our technology is completely British. Clearly Mr Thomas has been misinformed.

Mr Thomas tells us that "neither British turbo-generators nor Parsons have received an export order for almost six months" (attributing this to the delay in ordering Drax and the uncertainty over restructuring of the industry). While it may be true that Parsons have not had any significant export orders over the last two years, let alone six months, that does not apply to GEC.

Only last month we signed the contract to provide plant for the second phase of South Africa's Durban power station—a contract valued at £70m. Last month, also, we celebrated the Queen's Award to Industry which Mr Thomas will know was given for export achievement over the past three years.

I agree entirely that the upheaval involved in the restructuring of any industry could have some effect on overseas orders. But it is simply not true to say that overseas customers are concerned about different parts being built at different plants. If Mr Thomas had consulted the views of the shop stewards in the GEC turbine generator plants, maybe that is because our customers do not represent workers in his constituency, situated in that highly politically sensitive area, the North-East of England. A number of them, indeed, are based in Northern Ireland, where unemployment is certainly no less of a problem than elsewhere.

Mr Thomas tells us that the Government are now trying to get the various parties together under the auspices of the NEB. As it happens, after the publication of the Central Policy Review Staff report, GEC welcomed an approach from the NEB to discuss the role we might play in a restructured industry, and we ourselves put forward suggestions to the NEB indicating that we would be willing to talk both to them and to Parsons whenever they wished.

A meeting, arranged for April 25, was cancelled at the last moment. We understand by Parsons. We have not heard from Parsons since. I hope this does not mean that any concern they may have for the future of the industry as a whole evaporates in the heat of their own desire to promote the claims of Heaton.

Yours faithfully,  
NELSON OF STAFFORD,  
Chairman of GEC Limited,  
Stamper-Cate,  
London, W1.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### GEC's view of the power plant rationalization controversy

From Lord Nelson of Stafford

Sir, While we at GEC are always grateful for constructive criticism and advice, I feel I must comment on some of the statements in Mr Mike Thomas's letter (May 18) concerning the restructuring of the United Kingdom power plant manufacturing industry. It would be wrong for misleading statements, which might hinder progress towards a rational solution of this nationally important problem, to go uncorrected.

Mr Thomas says that C. A. Parsons produce "the most efficient turbo-generators in service with the GECB". This is irrelevant, the turbine generators to which he refers are of a type no longer ordered by the GECB. Both GEC and Parsons have introduced more advanced designs which are currently being supplied and commissioned. As for his claim that Parsons have manufactured "the highest rated nuclear turbo-generators in the world", GEC is among customers who have manufactured higher rated machines than Parsons.

There was considerable surprise in our offices this morning when we read that our technology was "largely American based". In fact we are proud that our technology is completely British. Clearly Mr Thomas has been misinformed.

Mr Thomas tells us that "neither British turbo-generators nor Parsons have received an export order for almost six months" (attributing this to the delay in ordering Drax and the uncertainty over restructuring of the industry). While it may be true that Parsons have not had any significant export orders over the last two years, let alone six months, that does not apply to GEC.

Only last month we signed the contract to provide plant for the second phase of South Africa's Durban power station—a contract valued at £70m. Last month, also, we celebrated the Queen's Award to Industry which Mr Thomas will know was given for export achievement over the past three years.

I agree entirely that the upheaval involved in the restructuring of any industry could have some effect on overseas orders. But it is simply not true to say that overseas customers are concerned about different parts being built at different plants. If Mr Thomas had consulted the views of the shop stewards in the GEC turbine generator plants, maybe that is because our customers do not represent workers in his constituency, situated in that highly politically sensitive area, the North-East of England. A number of them, indeed, are based in Northern Ireland, where unemployment is certainly no less of a problem than elsewhere.

Mr Thomas tells us that the Government are now trying to get the various parties together under the auspices of the NEB. As it happens, after the publication of the Central Policy Review Staff report, GEC welcomed an approach from the NEB to discuss the role we might play in a restructured industry, and we ourselves put forward suggestions to the NEB indicating that we would be willing to talk both to them and to Parsons whenever they wished.

A meeting, arranged for April 25, was cancelled at the last moment. We understand by Parsons. We have not heard from Parsons since. I hope this does not mean that any concern they may have for the future of the industry as a whole evaporates in the heat of their own desire to promote the claims of Heaton.

Yours faithfully,  
NELSON OF STAFFORD,  
Chairman of GEC Limited,  
Stamper-Cate,  
London, W1.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### GEC's view of the power plant rationalization controversy

From Lord Nelson of Stafford

Sir, While we at GEC are always grateful for constructive criticism and advice, I feel I must comment on some of the statements in Mr Mike Thomas's letter (May 18) concerning the restructuring of the United Kingdom power plant manufacturing industry. It would be wrong for misleading statements, which might hinder progress towards a rational solution of this nationally important problem, to go uncorrected.

Mr Thomas says that C. A. Parsons produce "the most efficient turbo-generators in service with the GECB". This is irrelevant, the turbine generators to which he refers are of a type no longer ordered by the GECB. Both GEC and Parsons have introduced more advanced designs which are currently being supplied and commissioned. As for his claim that Parsons have manufactured "the highest rated nuclear turbo-generators in the world", GEC is among customers who have manufactured higher rated machines than Parsons.

There was considerable surprise in our offices this morning when we read that our technology was "largely American based". In fact we are proud that our technology is completely British. Clearly Mr Thomas has been misinformed.

Mr Thomas tells us that "neither British turbo-generators nor Parsons have received an export order for almost six months" (attributing this to the delay in ordering Drax and the uncertainty over restructuring of the industry). While it may be true that Parsons have not had any significant export orders over the last two years, let alone six months, that does not apply to GEC.

Only last month we signed the contract to provide plant for the second phase of South Africa's Durban power station—a contract valued at £70m. Last month, also, we celebrated the Queen's Award to Industry which Mr Thomas will know was given for export achievement over the past three years.

I agree entirely that the upheaval involved in the restructuring of any industry could have some effect on overseas orders. But it is simply not true to say that overseas customers are concerned about different parts being built at different plants. If Mr Thomas had consulted the views of the shop stewards in the GEC turbine generator plants, maybe that is because our customers do not represent workers in his constituency, situated in that highly politically sensitive area, the North-East of England. A number of them, indeed, are based in Northern Ireland, where unemployment is certainly no less of a problem than elsewhere.

Mr Thomas tells us that the Government are now trying to get the various parties together under the auspices of the NEB. As it happens, after the publication of the Central Policy Review Staff report, GEC welcomed an approach from the NEB to discuss the role we might play in a restructured industry, and we ourselves put forward suggestions to the NEB indicating that we would be willing to talk both to them and to Parsons whenever they wished.

A meeting, arranged for April 25, was cancelled at the last moment. We understand by Parsons. We have not heard from Parsons since. I hope this does not mean that any concern they may have for the future of the industry as a whole evaporates in the heat of their own desire to promote the claims of Heaton.

Yours faithfully,  
NELSON OF STAFFORD,  
Chairman of GEC Limited,  
Stamper-Cate,  
London, W1.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.

From Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East (Labour and Co-operative).  
Sir, Thank you for publishing today's letter (May 18) my letter of May 11. However, in fairness to the Government, I should point out that it was written prior to the Prime Minister's commitment on May 12 that the Drax order would have to be placed "whatever the result" of the negotiations on restructuring of the industry. This represents a substantial and welcome change in Government policy.

Yours faithfully,  
MIKE THOMAS,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
May 18.







## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Stock markets

## Investors return on Healey optimism

The Chancellor's optimistic view of economic prospects brought the big investors back into the arena and share prices quickly went to another four-year high.

There was a spell around lunchtime when prices seemed to be boiling over, but unconfirmed reports of another North Sea strike by BP—one of the main planks of Mr Healey's optimism—brought renewed demand.

Mounting hopes of another cut in the Minimum Lending Rate and demand for the next account, which lasts for three weeks, also helped to push shares along and the FT Index closed 9.2 up at 477.4, its best level of the day.

Gilt-edged stocks made the running in early trading and

Thomas Borthwick has just turned in encouraging interim figures (sales and profits up 27 per cent) and thoughts are now turning towards J. E. Sanger in the import, export and wholesaling of meat and meat products. The group reports in July on the year to last March and profits could have risen from £1.5m to around £1.7m. The first half year was good. The shares at 45p yield a useful 14.8 per cent.

many long dates quickly rose by up to three-quarters of a point. Later, money market signals indicating caution on interest rates clipped many prices back by the close. There were in the three-eighths to one-half range.

"Shores" ended the session little changed or just a shade harder. In the engineering sector investors were attracted by Dery International's big Russian order and the shares jumped 12p to 228p on a lively demand. John Brown was again helped by favourable com-

ment and rose another 10p to 207p and for a similar reason Glynwed was well supported at 120p, better by 5p. For the second day running Braithwaite attracted support, rising another 8p to 248p, and among the majors GKN was a firm spot at 361p, up 11p.

Over in electricals Chloride gained 4p to 119p in spite of its labour problems and Raytheon Parsons took a day off from worrying about the implications of Drax and rose 14p to 207p on the back of a better overseas order book. GEC, another involved in Drax, firmed 4p to 188p after other contract news and there were also strong performances from Plessey up 5p to 90p and EMI where the gain was 8p to 246p.

An acquisition did nothing for Zetters at 25p and Trident TV added 1p to 47p after a purchase, rights issue and dividend forecast.

The major feature in the stores sector was the ZBBA family's disposal of around 8 million shares in Mothercare

which ended 4p off at 290p. The shares are now in institutional hands. Woolworth's first-quarter figures made little impact on the shares at 581p but bid speculation continued to help House of Fraser which ended 2p firmer at 128p. Interim figures also made little impact on Ranks Hovis McDougall at 471p but Reckitt & Colman put on 5p to 427p in front of the annual meeting. Hoping for better terms transport group Lyon & Lyon rose 5p to 63p while speculative interest helped Savoy 'A' to close 5p ahead at 62p.

Profit taking after the Lomrho terms hit AVF, which lost 4p to 125p; MK Refrigeration shot up 8p to 120p on bid hopes and Laurence Scott, though unchanged at 128p, was actively traded in the hope of getting further news in the near future.

The BP reports helped the share to rise 14p to 960p after a couple of pence better than that while Shell added 11p to 549p in sympathy, as did Ultra-mar, up 5p to 294p. North Sea

was not far behind, rising 5p to 515p. The news of higher tea prices did little for Brooke Bond, just a penny firmer at 501p, but BTR was a strong 25p, up 7p. Further reflection on figures helped General Electric to put on 8p to 199p and Furness Withy 4p to 293p. Results had McNeill off 8p to 35p, but Redman Heenan 1p to 52p and Minty 5p to 75p went the other way after statements. In property, figures from Land Investments up 5p to 106p. Equity turnover on May 17 was £72.2m (18,465 bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph active stocks yesterday were ICI, Shell, BAT, Debenhams, GKN, BSC, International Rank, Trafalgar House, BP, P. O., BAT Ind, Becham, Furness Withy, Dery International, Associated Newspapers and Savoy 'A'.

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.54. \* To reduce disparity between payments. † On increased capital. ‡ Excludes special dividend of 3p per share. \*\* Adjusted for scrip issue.

Pre-tax profits for the year amounted to £360,000 against losses of £899,000 the year before. At the halfway stage, Reliant was £352,000 in the red but, with one exception, the three engineering subsidiaries had performed well. The exception, glass fibre crew cabs maker, Hodgkinson Bennis, underwent a major reorganisation and the resulting deficit wiped out the profits from the remaining engineering companies. The motor division was held up by the delays in building up "Scimitar" production and the HP restrictions lifted last July on three wheel vehicles. The group's wide base offers plenty of scope for a variety of bidders. Suggestions that Guest Keen & Nettlefolds might want to add Reliant to its plastic panels division, however, have been roundly rejected.

Shareholders, who include the Standard Chartered Bank, through Hodge Group, with 77 per cent of the equity, have already been warned that the bid is likely to come at a lower price than prevailing Stock Exchange valuations. The February 1976 balance sheet shows net assets of 5.5p per share.

The warning has naturally dampened speculation in the shares but the results for the year to end-February last indicate that Reliant, the "Robin", "Scimitar" and "Kitten" motor manufacturers, has stemmed recent losses and has started along the road to recovery.

It implies the likelihood that funds would be compulsorily diverted into companies which can only offer an uncompetitive return or a high risk of loss. However, Mr J. E. H. Collins, chairman of Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance, tells shareholders that, as far as nationalization goes, "the chances of any developments in this field are remote".

But, he continues, "the very fact that this suggestion has been put out, and received support at a Labour party conference damages our image over the years as a trust only temporary".

Shareholders at the annual meeting of Sun Alliance and London Assurance heard that the estimate of the position at the end of the first quarter was encouraging.

He argued: "The strongest and perhaps the most easily understood direction of investment is that

of the retail market and conditions to date have not been favourable to our spring merchandise programme. We can see no immediate prospect of an upturn in sales.

On the other hand, the profit result has been influenced by trading margins which have the benefit of the change in our merchandise mix; additionally, profits show the effect of improvements in systems and economies of operation.

F. W. WOOLWORTH AND CO., LIMITED  
Woolworth House, 242/246, Marylebone Road, London NW1 6JL.

Salient figures and comment from the unaudited statement of profit of the Company and its subsidiaries for the three months ended 30th April, 1977, with comparative figures for the previous financial year.

12 months ended 31st January, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1976

Increase %

£000's

Turnover (excluding value added tax)

155,860

141,972

9.8

45,521

Trading Profit

6,923

5,549

24.8

40,967

Profit before taxation

5,776

5,054

14.3

The sales increase of just under 10% reflects the depressed state of consumer spending in our area of the retail market and conditions to date have not been favourable to our spring merchandise programme. We can see no immediate prospect of an upturn in sales.

On the other hand, the profit result has been influenced by trading margins which have the benefit of the change in our merchandise mix; additionally, profits show the effect of improvements in systems and economies of operation.

F. W. WOOLWORTH AND CO., LIMITED  
Woolworth House, 242/246, Marylebone Road, London NW1 6JL.

Salient figures and comment from the unaudited statement of profit of the Company and its subsidiaries for the three months ended 30th April, 1977, with comparative figures for the previous financial year.

12 months ended 31st January, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1976

Increase %

£000's

Turnover (excluding value added tax)

155,860

141,972

9.8

45,521

Trading Profit

6,923

5,549

24.8

40,967

Profit before taxation

5,776

5,054

14.3

The sales increase of just under 10% reflects the depressed state of consumer spending in our area of the retail market and conditions to date have not been favourable to our spring merchandise programme. We can see no immediate prospect of an upturn in sales.

On the other hand, the profit result has been influenced by trading margins which have the benefit of the change in our merchandise mix; additionally, profits show the effect of improvements in systems and economies of operation.

F. W. WOOLWORTH AND CO., LIMITED  
Woolworth House, 242/246, Marylebone Road, London NW1 6JL.

Salient figures and comment from the unaudited statement of profit of the Company and its subsidiaries for the three months ended 30th April, 1977, with comparative figures for the previous financial year.

12 months ended 31st January, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1976

Increase %

£000's

Turnover (excluding value added tax)

155,860

141,972

9.8

45,521

Trading Profit

6,923

5,549

24.8

40,967

Profit before taxation

5,776

5,054

14.3

The sales increase of just under 10% reflects the depressed state of consumer spending in our area of the retail market and conditions to date have not been favourable to our spring merchandise programme. We can see no immediate prospect of an upturn in sales.

On the other hand, the profit result has been influenced by trading margins which have the benefit of the change in our merchandise mix; additionally, profits show the effect of improvements in systems and economies of operation.

F. W. WOOLWORTH AND CO., LIMITED  
Woolworth House, 242/246, Marylebone Road, London NW1 6JL.

Salient figures and comment from the unaudited statement of profit of the Company and its subsidiaries for the three months ended 30th April, 1977, with comparative figures for the previous financial year.

12 months ended 31st January, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1976

Increase %

£000's

Turnover (excluding value added tax)

155,860

141,972

9.8

45,521

Trading Profit

6,923

5,549

24.8

40,967

Profit before taxation

5,776

5,054

14.3

The sales increase of just under 10% reflects the depressed state of consumer spending in our area of the retail market and conditions to date have not been favourable to our spring merchandise programme. We can see no immediate prospect of an upturn in sales.

On the other hand, the profit result has been influenced by trading margins which have the benefit of the change in our merchandise mix; additionally, profits show the effect of improvements in systems and economies of operation.

F. W. WOOLWORTH AND CO., LIMITED  
Woolworth House, 242/246, Marylebone Road, London NW1 6JL.

Salient figures and comment from the unaudited statement of profit of the Company and its subsidiaries for the three months ended 30th April, 1977, with comparative figures for the previous financial year.

12 months ended 31st January, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1976

Increase %

£000's

Turnover (excluding value added tax)

155,860

141,972

9.8

45,521

Trading Profit

6,923

5,549

24.8

40,967

Profit before taxation

5,776

5,054

14.3

The sales increase of just under 10% reflects the depressed state of consumer spending in our area of the retail market and conditions to date have not been favourable to our spring merchandise programme. We can see no immediate prospect of an upturn in sales.

On the other hand, the profit result has been influenced by trading margins which have the benefit of the change in our merchandise mix; additionally, profits show the effect of improvements in systems and economies of operation.

F. W. WOOLWORTH AND CO., LIMITED  
Woolworth House, 242/246, Marylebone Road, London NW1 6JL.

Salient figures and comment from the unaudited statement of profit of the Company and its subsidiaries for the three months ended 30th April, 1977, with comparative figures for the previous financial year.

12 months ended 31st January, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1976

Increase %

£000's

Turnover (excluding value added tax)

155,860

141,972

9.8

45,521

Trading Profit

6,923

5,549

24.8

40,967

Profit before taxation

5,776

5,054

14.3

The sales increase of just under 10% reflects the depressed state of consumer spending in our area of the retail market and conditions to date have not been favourable to our spring merchandise programme. We can see no immediate prospect of an upturn in sales.

On the other hand, the profit result has been influenced by trading margins which have the benefit of the change in our merchandise mix; additionally, profits show the effect of improvements in systems and economies of operation.

F. W. WOOLWORTH AND CO., LIMITED  
Woolworth House, 242/246, Marylebone Road, London NW1 6JL.

Salient figures and comment from the unaudited statement of profit of the Company and its subsidiaries for the three months ended 30th April, 1977, with comparative figures for the previous financial year.

12 months ended 31st January, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1976

Increase %

£000's

Turnover (excluding value added tax)

155,860

141,972

9.8

45,521

Trading Profit

6,923

5,549

24.8

40,967

Profit before taxation

5,776

5,054

14.3

The sales increase of just under 10% reflects the depressed state of consumer spending in our area of the retail market and conditions to date have not been favourable to our spring merchandise programme. We can see no immediate prospect of an upturn in sales.

On the other hand, the profit result has been influenced by trading margins which have the benefit of the change in our merchandise mix; additionally, profits show the effect of improvements in systems and economies of operation.

F. W. WOOLWORTH AND CO., LIMITED  
Woolworth House, 242/246, Marylebone Road, London NW1 6JL.

Salient figures and comment from the unaudited statement of profit of the Company and its subsidiaries for the three months ended 30th April, 1977, with comparative figures for the previous financial year.

12 months ended 31st January, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1976

Increase %

£000's

Turnover (excluding value added tax)

155,860

141,972

9.8

45,521

Trading Profit

6,923

5,549

24.8

40,967

Profit before taxation

5,776

5,054

14.3

The sales increase of just under 10% reflects the depressed state of consumer spending in our area of the retail market and conditions to date have not been favourable to our spring merchandise programme. We can see no immediate prospect of an upturn in sales.

On the other hand, the profit result has been influenced by trading margins which have the benefit of the change in our merchandise mix; additionally, profits show the effect of improvements in systems and economies of operation.

F. W. WOOLWORTH AND CO., LIMITED  
Woolworth House, 242/246, Marylebone Road, London NW1 6JL.

Salient figures and comment from the unaudited statement of profit of the Company and its subsidiaries for the three months ended 30th April, 1977, with comparative figures for the previous financial year.

12 months ended 31st January, 1977

3 months ended 30th April, 1977



# COMMODITIES AND MARKET REPORTS

## Cocoa goes head on for lightness physicals

was the turn of cocoa prices to go head on for lightness physicals. The London Cocoa Exchange reported a sharp rise in the price of cocoa beans, with the spot price rising 175 pence to 1,175 pence and the July futures rising 175 pence to 1,175 pence.

though the coffee market reported nervous after the report of a bumper crop in Brazil, the price of coffee beans rose 175 pence to 1,175 pence. The London Coffee Exchange reported a sharp rise in the price of coffee beans, with the spot price rising 175 pence to 1,175 pence.

## Foreign Exchange

Foreign exchange markets spent another extremely quiet session yesterday. The pound sterling was steady at 1.94 pence per dollar, while the Swiss franc rose 1 pence to 1.50 pence per dollar.

The dollar lost a little ground as commodity currencies generally rose. The pound sterling was steady at 1.94 pence per dollar, while the Swiss franc rose 1 pence to 1.50 pence per dollar.

## Discount Market

The Bank of England gave help on a moderate scale to the discount market yesterday. The bank's discount rate was 10 per cent, while the market rate was 12 per cent.

The underlying factors suggested that this assistance was purely a little overdone and that banks would be taking above-the-board balances forward into today. Mean-while, rates for day-to-day money showed little change over the course of the session.

## Wall Street

New York, May 18.—Stock prices were strongly higher at the New York Stock Exchange close. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was 1,175.34, up 17.54 points from 1,157.80.

Cocoa up 6 cents limit. New York, May 18.—Cocoa prices were strongly higher at the New York Cocoa Exchange close. The spot price for cocoa beans was 1,175 pence, up 175 pence from 1,000 pence.

## Money Market

Bank of England's discount rate was 10 per cent. The market rate for 3-month bills was 12 per cent, while the rate for 6-month bills was 14 per cent.

The Eurosyndicate index on European share prices was 118.41 on May 17, up 0.12 points from 118.29 on May 16.

## Spot Position of Sterling

The pound sterling was steady at 1.94 pence per dollar. The Swiss franc was 1.50 pence per dollar, while the German mark was 1.75 pence per dollar.

The forward levels for the pound sterling were 1.94 pence per dollar for 3 months, 1.95 pence per dollar for 6 months, and 1.96 pence per dollar for 12 months.

## Gold

The price of gold was 1,175 pence per ounce. The price of silver was 175 pence per ounce, while the price of platinum was 1,175 pence per ounce.

The price of gold was 1,175 pence per ounce. The price of silver was 175 pence per ounce, while the price of platinum was 1,175 pence per ounce.

## Forward Levels

The forward levels for the pound sterling were 1.94 pence per dollar for 3 months, 1.95 pence per dollar for 6 months, and 1.96 pence per dollar for 12 months.

The forward levels for the pound sterling were 1.94 pence per dollar for 3 months, 1.95 pence per dollar for 6 months, and 1.96 pence per dollar for 12 months.

## Soviet Union may have a record winter wheat crop

Washington, May 18.—The Soviet Union may have a record winter wheat crop, according to a report from the United States Agriculture Department. The report says that the Russian winter wheat harvest is expected to be 10 per cent larger than the previous record in 1971, and a third bigger than last year.

The report says that the Russian winter wheat harvest is expected to be 10 per cent larger than the previous record in 1971, and a third bigger than last year. The report also says that the Russian winter wheat harvest is expected to be 10 per cent larger than the previous record in 1971, and a third bigger than last year.

## Bank Base Rates

Bank of England's discount rate was 10 per cent. The market rate for 3-month bills was 12 per cent, while the rate for 6-month bills was 14 per cent.

The price of gold was 1,175 pence per ounce. The price of silver was 175 pence per ounce, while the price of platinum was 1,175 pence per ounce.

## Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

The price of gold was 1,175 pence per ounce. The price of silver was 175 pence per ounce, while the price of platinum was 1,175 pence per ounce.

The price of gold was 1,175 pence per ounce. The price of silver was 175 pence per ounce, while the price of platinum was 1,175 pence per ounce.

## Recent Issues

The price of gold was 1,175 pence per ounce. The price of silver was 175 pence per ounce, while the price of platinum was 1,175 pence per ounce.

The price of gold was 1,175 pence per ounce. The price of silver was 175 pence per ounce, while the price of platinum was 1,175 pence per ounce.

## Bank Base Rates

Bank of England's discount rate was 10 per cent. The market rate for 3-month bills was 12 per cent, while the rate for 6-month bills was 14 per cent.

The price of gold was 1,175 pence per ounce. The price of silver was 175 pence per ounce, while the price of platinum was 1,175 pence per ounce.

## Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

The price of gold was 1,175 pence per ounce. The price of silver was 175 pence per ounce, while the price of platinum was 1,175 pence per ounce.

The price of gold was 1,175 pence per ounce. The price of silver was 175 pence per ounce, while the price of platinum was 1,175 pence per ounce.

## Recent Issues

The price of gold was 1,175 pence per ounce. The price of silver was 175 pence per ounce, while the price of platinum was 1,175 pence per ounce.

The price of gold was 1,175 pence per ounce. The price of silver was 175 pence per ounce, while the price of platinum was 1,175 pence per ounce.

**INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY SHARE FUND**

**"ICOFUND S.A.H."**

SOCIÉTÉ ANONYME

23, AVENUE DE LA PORTE-NEUVE

LUXEMBOURG

R.C. LUXEMBOURG B 7942

**NOTICE**

onsultant to a resolution of the Annual General Meeting of shareholders held on the 26th of April, 1977, payment of 500.00 per share will be made on the 26th May, 1977, with the possibility of reinvestment in shares, without deduction of the subscription value calculated on the 26th May. For that purpose shareholders have to introduce their application before the payment date.

zing agents:

- Banca Commerciale Italiana in Milan
- Banca della Svizzera Italiana in Lugano and Zurich
- Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas in Paris, Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva and London
- Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas pour le Grand-Duché de Luxembourg in Luxembourg

17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	17 London Wt. CEN 11	
----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	--



Account Days: Dealings Began, May 9. Dealings End, May 20. § Conizango Day, May 23. Settlement Day, May 31.  
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

SECRETARY

[illegible]



# La creme de la creme Opportunities

—Managerial—Administrative—Secretarial—Personal Assistants—

## INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY

### SECRETARY/PA

£3000+

The International Energy Agency - I.E.A. - needs a Secretary/PA to work with the Head of a major Research Project. Location is near Victoria Station in a suite of modern new offices.

This is a senior appointment, unusually interesting, and involving considerable high-level international contacts. Knowledge of a second major European language would be useful.

Starting salary will be from £3000 depending on experience and qualifications. There are excellent conditions of employment.

Please write with full details to NCB (I.E.A. Services) Ltd., Room 227, Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7AE.

**IEA**  
COAL RESEARCH

## Administrative Secretary

W.I. Circa £3,000 p.a.

required for our Services Manager, who is responsible for a variety of functions which contribute towards the smooth running of the Thomson Organisation corporate headquarters.

You will probably be in your early twenties and looking for a job which will give you an opportunity to use your initiative and in which there is a great deal of contact with people, particularly over the telephone. You will need a methodical approach, a good memory for detail and accurate shorthand typing.

Salary circa £3,000 p.a. plus L.V.s, hours 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.; 5 weeks' annual holiday. Pleasant offices located opposite Bond St. Tube.

For further information please ring or write to:

Mrs J.S. Hughes,  
THE THOMSON ORGANISATION LTD,  
4 Stratford Place, London W1A 4YG  
01-492-0321.



The Kuwait Hilton

requires

SECRETARIES

The Kuwait Hilton, a luxury Hotel and part of the International Chain of Hilton Hotels, are seeking three Secretaries. These are senior appointments and we are only considering applicants with first-class secretarial skills and at least three years' secretarial experience.

We are offering a salary of £320 net per month. We will provide you with comfortable accommodation and meals and will pay your outward fare.

Please write with full details and enclosing a recent photograph, to: Mrs J. Collins, Personnel Manager, The Kuwait Hilton, 22 Park Lane, London, W1A 2HH. Interviews will be held in London.

## SECRETARY

to Chairman of

Knightbridge Advertising Agency

If you have good shorthand and typing skills, experience of working for an advertising agency, and are looking for a job which will give you an opportunity to use your initiative and in which there is a great deal of contact with people, particularly over the telephone. You will need a methodical approach, a good memory for detail and accurate shorthand typing.

A competitive salary (£320 net per month) is offered. The office is in a modern building, and the atmosphere is very pleasant.

So, if you are looking for a new job in which your initiative, initiative and initiative will be put to use, please write to: Mrs J. Collins, Personnel Manager, The Kuwait Hilton, 22 Park Lane, London, W1A 2HH. Interviews will be held in London.

## SECRETARIES

We invite applications from secretaries who would enjoy working in the headquarters of the International Mining and Industrial Group, situated in St. James's Square very near to Piccadilly Circus.

Apart from a good salary, we offer excellent working conditions, a 35-hour week, subsidised dining room, and holidays will be generous this year.

For further details experienced secretaries should contact the Personnel Officer, Tel. 01-930 2389, ext. 2388 or 2389.

## SECRETARY-PERSONNEL

Canon Street, E.C.4

To work with the Personnel and Training Manager, Finance, at the Head Office of SPILLERS LTD., manufacturers of human and pet foods, in addition to the responsibilities of a Secretary/PA, you will be expected to undertake administrative responsibilities in connection with recruitment, development, training, and discipline. You will be able to use your own initiative and discretion. If you have a minimum of 3 years' experience and 25 to 30 with shorthand/typing speeds of 110/55 w.p.m., a good standard of English, and a pleasant personality, you will be considered for this position. Please send your CV to: Mrs. Rosemary Evans, Personnel Officer, SPILLERS LTD., 45 Canon Street, E.C.4. Tel. 01-488 5700.

For further details experienced secretaries should contact the Personnel Officer, Tel. 01-930 2389, ext. 2388 or 2389.

## PA/SECRETARY

£3,500-£3,800

Director of Administration and Operations for the worldwide Group. The position involves a high level of responsibility and a good knowledge of the Group's business.

Applicants should have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar position and a good knowledge of the Group's business. Please send your CV to: Mrs. Rosemary Evans, Personnel Officer, SPILLERS LTD., 45 Canon Street, E.C.4. Tel. 01-488 5700.

For further details experienced secretaries should contact the Personnel Officer, Tel. 01-930 2389, ext. 2388 or 2389.

For further details experienced secretaries should contact the Personnel Officer, Tel. 01-930 2389, ext. 2388 or 2389.

For further details experienced secretaries should contact the Personnel Officer, Tel. 01-930 2389, ext. 2388 or 2389.

For further details experienced secretaries should contact the Personnel Officer, Tel. 01-930 2389, ext. 2388 or 2389.

For further details experienced secretaries should contact the Personnel Officer, Tel. 01-930 2389, ext. 2388 or 2389.

For further details experienced secretaries should contact the Personnel Officer, Tel. 01-930 2389, ext. 2388 or 2389.

For further details experienced secretaries should contact the Personnel Officer, Tel. 01-930 2389, ext. 2388 or 2389.

For further details experienced secretaries should contact the Personnel Officer, Tel. 01-930 2389, ext. 2388 or 2389.

## CHIEF ARCHITECT'S

SECRETARY

WEST LONDON

Our Chief Architect—responsible for co-ordinating design work on world-wide, multi-million pound construction contracts—needs an experienced Secretary with considerable organisational ability, to play a leading role in his small, close-knit professional team. It is unusually interesting work and, although part of a major international company, this predominantly young department operates as an autonomous unit, allowing for close working relationships and great degree of personal involvement.

A good "communicator" both orally and in writing, you will be largely responsible for inter-departmental liaison in the Architect's absence—often at senior management level. Good shorthand and typing speeds are of course, essential.

The starting salary is negotiable, and will be supported by a full range of generous benefits. Our modern, well-equipped offices are well placed for transport and shopping.

For full information, please phone Joan Palmer on 01-748 2890 ext. 2066.

George Wimpey & Co. Limited,  
26-28 Hammersmith Grove  
London, W6 7EN

## MARKETING DIRECTOR'S PA

PRINTING/PUBLISHING GROUP

Initiative, flexibility and interest are just three of the skills you will need to work with this expanding organization based London WC2.

You will find yourself involved in a variety of activities but you will also have the opportunity to use your secretarial skills.

Preferable applicants will:

★ Be between 25-35.  
★ Be career minded.  
★ Have good secretarial/P.A. skills.  
★ Have the ability to work on a range of business activities.

★ Have commitment, initiative and dedication. The salary for this position is negotiable and additional fringe benefits are offered.

A similar POSITION WITH THE GROUP FINANCE DIRECTOR IS ALSO AVAILABLE BASED IN CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

Replies in writing to: Group Marketing Director  
Garrod & Lofthouse  
6 Langley Street  
London WC2E 9JA  
01-240 3322

Or telephone

Smiths Food Group

Smiths Food Group are the country's leading snack food manufacturer, with well-known brands like Smiths Groups, Quavers and Horro Baggies.

Currently, our General Manager needs an exceptional P.A. to become involved in a very broad range of activities at our Head Office in Kent.

In a busy and progressive environment, you will find plenty of scope for initiative and the opportunity to use your secretarial skills. You will need to be disciplined with a strong organisational ability, cool-headed and self-confident in your dealings with people at the highest level.

Of course, you will need the classic "secretary" skills and must be prepared to make a commitment to the job, in return, there will be an excellent salary, together with an attractive range of benefits that include a subsidised restaurant and social club.

Ring Linda Holmes on 01-378 5670 and ask for an application form. Smiths Food Group, 111 Marlborough Road, New, Richmond, Surrey.

Smiths Food Group

Smiths Food Group are the country's leading snack food manufacturer, with well-known brands like Smiths Groups, Quavers and Horro Baggies.

Currently, our General Manager needs an exceptional P.A. to become involved in a very broad range of activities at our Head Office in Kent.

In a busy and progressive environment, you will find plenty of scope for initiative and the opportunity to use your secretarial skills. You will need to be disciplined with a strong organisational ability, cool-headed and self-confident in your dealings with people at the highest level.

Of course, you will need the classic "secretary" skills and must be prepared to make a commitment to the job, in return, there will be an excellent salary, together with an attractive range of benefits that include a subsidised restaurant and social club.

Ring Linda Holmes on 01-378 5670 and ask for an application form. Smiths Food Group, 111 Marlborough Road, New, Richmond, Surrey.

Smiths Food Group

Smiths Food Group are the country's leading snack food manufacturer, with well-known brands like Smiths Groups, Quavers and Horro Baggies.

Currently, our General Manager needs an exceptional P.A. to become involved in a very broad range of activities at our Head Office in Kent.

In a busy and progressive environment, you will find plenty of scope for initiative and the opportunity to use your secretarial skills. You will need to be disciplined with a strong organisational ability, cool-headed and self-confident in your dealings with people at the highest level.

Of course, you will need the classic "secretary" skills and must be prepared to make a commitment to the job, in return, there will be an excellent salary, together with an attractive range of benefits that include a subsidised restaurant and social club.

Ring Linda Holmes on 01-378 5670 and ask for an application form. Smiths Food Group, 111 Marlborough Road, New, Richmond, Surrey.

Smiths Food Group

Smiths Food Group are the country's leading snack food manufacturer, with well-known brands like Smiths Groups, Quavers and Horro Baggies.

Currently, our General Manager needs an exceptional P.A. to become involved in a very broad range of activities at our Head Office in Kent.

In a busy and progressive environment, you will find plenty of scope for initiative and the opportunity to use your secretarial skills. You will need to be disciplined with a strong organisational ability, cool-headed and self-confident in your dealings with people at the highest level.

Of course, you will need the classic "secretary" skills and must be prepared to make a commitment to the job, in return, there will be an excellent salary, together with an attractive range of benefits that include a subsidised restaurant and social club.

Ring Linda Holmes on 01-378 5670 and ask for an application form. Smiths Food Group, 111 Marlborough Road, New, Richmond, Surrey.

Smiths Food Group

Smiths Food Group are the country's leading snack food manufacturer, with well-known brands like Smiths Groups, Quavers and Horro Baggies.

Currently, our General Manager needs an exceptional P.A. to become involved in a very broad range of activities at our Head Office in Kent.

In a busy and progressive environment, you will find plenty of scope for initiative and the opportunity to use your secretarial skills. You will need to be disciplined with a strong organisational ability, cool-headed and self-confident in your dealings with people at the highest level.

Of course, you will need the classic "secretary" skills and must be prepared to make a commitment to the job, in return, there will be an excellent salary, together with an attractive range of benefits that include a subsidised restaurant and social club.

Ring Linda Holmes on 01-378 5670 and ask for an application form. Smiths Food Group, 111 Marlborough Road, New, Richmond, Surrey.

Smiths Food Group

## PERSONAL

ASSISTANT/

SECRETARY

Our Personnel Manager urgently needs someone with good shorthand and typing skills to help him not only run the day-to-day activities of a busy Personnel Department, but also to undertake a variety of personnel oriented projects such as salary surveys, manpower turnover, etc.

The ideal person would probably be aged over 25, have a high level of initiative and either experience of working in a personnel department or a similarly demanding environment. This post could have special appeal to someone with a higher than average level of academic education, possibly including some "A" levels.

Our offices are based by the river Thames at Kew and some of the benefits offered include a competitive salary, non-contributory pension scheme and free life assurance, together with an excellent subsidised canteen, plus L.V.s and social club, etc.

Interested? Then telephone Mrs Sue Vernon immediately on 01-995 1322.

THE RALPH M. PARSONS CO LTD,  
Parsons House, New Bridge Road, Brentford, Middx.

## PERSONNEL

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

C. £4,250 P.A. NORTH LONDON

Our client is the Personnel Director of a large division of a National Group with operational sales and marketing operations throughout the world.

As a result of departmental reorganisation the secretarial and administrative functions within the senior personnel department are being divided.

Our client is seeking an intelligent, responsible administrator, not necessarily possessing typing skills. The applicant will be aged between 25 and 30 with a sound background either in personnel work or administration and capable of organising and maintaining a staff of secretaries, typists, and clerical employees, personnel procedures, staff handbooks and staff registers, including recruitment and selection.

This position is extremely interesting and varied within a large successful group and the appointment is recognised as a senior function within the department. Benefits accordingly are significant and include excellent appointed offices in a modern building, car parking space, a subsidised executive dining room, life assurance, pension scheme, discount on goods, as well as other more usual large company benefits and an exceptional starting salary.

APPLICATIONS MAY BE MADE BY TELEPHONE TO MR C. REES, 282 0012 OR IN WRITING TO 416 HENDON WAY, NW4 3JL.

QUEST CONSULTANTS LTD.

## THE RANK ORGANISATION

Secretary

to the

Group Treasurer

You will play an important part in your new team, set up to deal with the management of the Rank Organisation's cash resources, from normal working capital, to the preparation of cash forecasts, monitoring expenditure and income, and the preparation of budgets and forecasts.

You will need to be motivated, educated at least to O level, and have a sound secretarial experience, particularly in banking or a related field.

The post is open to men or women. For more details please contact:

Marian Miles  
THE RANK ORGANISATION  
11 Hill Street, W.1.  
Telephone 01-499 6353

## Confederation of British Industry

needs

SECRETARY

For one of our two Deputy Directors-General, we are looking for a person who will enjoy a job among important people in a relaxed but highly efficient office. He/she must be a capable and sensible person, with all the usual secretarial attributes, tactful and friendly.

We will pay up to £3,300 per annum for the right person.

If you are interested, please get in touch with Jane Hopkinson, CBI, 21 Tottel Street, London, SW1 or telephone 01-930 6711 ext 5.

## SECRETARY TO

MANAGING DIRECTOR

The post is offered requires commitment, initiative, the ability to work under pressure and the desire to become involved in a wide range of business activities.

It is unlikely that anyone under the age of 30 would have the experience and administrative background to undertake the responsibilities involved. First class typing and shorthand skills are essential.

Procon (GB) Ltd. is an International Petrochemical Construction Company and can offer a competitive salary and attractive fringe benefits. The position is a permanent one. The salary is negotiable. Please send your CV to: Mrs. Rosemary Evans, Personnel Officer, SPILLERS LTD., 45 Canon Street, E.C.4. Tel. 01-488 5700.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

## SECRETARY/

ASSISTANT

Kingston-on-Thames

Stimulating varied work as third member of one-man team. Excellent training, benefits, and a good salary. If you are interested, please write to: Mrs. Rosemary Evans, Personnel Officer, SPILLERS LTD., 45 Canon Street, E.C.4. Tel. 01-488 5700.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

educated • persevering • ambitious

## VIRTUOSO

copytypists or typesetters 22-35yrs

Escape from your present dead-end

Gain expertise, training and management opportunity

Salary £3500 - £4500 plus voluntary overtime

We also need unskilled school-leavers (16-18), and new graduates, for tough business training leading to junior management; also student part-timers and part-time translators.

Letterstream has a lot of fun with high technology-processing work for other companies, relieving drudgery and space. Growth of approximately 10% per month has come from a young original team of above average dedication, backed by the most advanced office machinery available in the world e.g. colour photocopying, ink jet writers, electronic compositors, high speed collating, justifying typewriters, litho-presses etc.

The staff structure appears to bring out the best in people - flexible - no sacking for mistakes or personality conflicts - frank, direct interchange of views, promotion and/or reward strictly for performance.

Customers remark on the air of vitality about the place.

If you care about Britain's declining spiral, and show a sense of outrage when someone answers "sorry we're shut", you may find Letterstream is actually doing something about it, and employs exciting people.

For an appointment to visit the company, telephone Edward Kalfayan or Vicki Reid at 01 499-0628 or write to

## letterstream

3 Shepherd Market Mayfair London W1Y 4FL  
45 Conduit Street Mayfair London W1

## Something different and worthwhile

The Rev. Andrew Smith who directs a go-ahead community settlement—the Oxford House in Bathel Green—requires a Secretary/PA. Knowledge of community work useful. Good secretarial experience is essential as is an interest in people. This is a senior appointment with a salary of around £3,250 plus six weeks annual holiday.

Please telephone our administrator, Susan Northover, on 01-738 9083.

## SPRECHEN SIE DEUTSCH?

We are a small friendly Company near Piccadilly Circus and are searching for two Bilingual Secretaries, German/English, in work for two of our young Product Executives. If you are 22+, think you are worth a good salary, intelligent, mature, able to work on your own, with a good telephone manner, please contact: Vanessa Durham, 01-930 4504/9

## BILINGUAL SECRETARY

A mature person is required for a senior secretarial post, with a company based near South Kensington Station. Applicants must be fluent in French and have excellent secretarial and organising abilities.

Salary from £4,000  
Age from 25 years

For an immediate appointment and further details please telephone the Personnel Department

01-589 1460

## CLOE

OPENING SHORTLY IN NEW BOND STREET LONDON

requires the following experienced staff to sell the beautiful hand-made clothes which Carl Lagerfeld will be sending from Paris

MANAGER (male or female)

SALES ASSISTANTS

also ACCOUNTS/STOCK CLERK

All position offer competitive salaries together with generous fringe benefits.

Please apply, with full details of past experience, to: Box 0530 J. The Times.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

For further information please write to or telephone Penny Harvey at Procon (GB) Ltd., Greater London House, Hampstead Road, W.1. Tel. 01-581 5671.

La















J. A. Henschel  
 1000 S. 1st  
 W-480, Tel



